# PLANT COMMUNITIES OF NORTHEASTERN MONTANA: A FIRST APPROXIMATION

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#### MISSION STATEMENT

This study is a working component of the Montana Natural Heritage Program's (MTNHP) grasslands/shrublands ecological classification project (GSCP) and The Nature Conservancy's ecology program in the western United States. The Nature Conservancy program provides key information on plant communities to be used for conservation planning, management, research, and moni-toring. Although grasslands and shrublands cover over 75% of the Montana landscape, an exhaustive review of existing information (MTNHP 1990) revealed them to be the least documented vegetation types of the state. Therefore, the GSCP is designed as a first approximation classification over the full range of ecological conditions. This document will serve as a baseline for regional correlations of existing classifications. The information provided by the project will be the basis for programs to model the effects of management, global changes, and other variables on the vegetation types and diversity patterns, and their implications for further management and conservation planning. The project will continue to focus on strong collaborative work with the various state and federal agencies (BLM, USFS, BIA, DOD) and other institutions (e.g. Montana universities) in order to contribute to the development of a tightly integrated state-wide classification system.

**ABSTRACT** 

Interrelationships between vegetation composition and envi-ronment were studied using 125 vegetation plots sampled in a 12.5 million acre (50,000 km²) area of predominantly mixed-grass prairie in northcentral to northeastern Montana. Using a combination of two-way indicator species analysis, detrended correspondence analysis, and detrended canonical correspondence analysis (DCCA), 24 community types were identified. The patterns in community composition were strongly correlated with soil disturbance and moisture gradients and these relationships are discussed. Keys are provided for each community type sampled (and 54 additional types docu-mented in the literature).

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#### INTRODUCTION

This study provides a classification of plant communities (primarily grasslands and shrublands) throughout northeastern Montana (Figure 1). The study emphasized locating and describing rare or previously undescribed communities and common communities in good to excellent ecological condition. Such a classification will be useful in identifying sensitive communities and natural areas where management activities may need to be adjusted to maintain habitat values. Additionally, the classification provides a reference system for baseline monitoring of environmental impacts and vegetation recovery and provides an ecological basis for categorizing environmental variation.

This study represents a step towards developing a comprehensive classification of Montana plant communities that will provide land managers and scientists a state-wide perspective of community variation (nation-wide when correlated with other state classifications). Such a perspective is invaluable towards making sound management prescriptions and predictions, designing and interpreting experiments, and identifying areas of critical importance for conservation.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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#### PREVIOUS RESEARCH

Grasslands and shrublands cover over 75 percent of the Montana landscape, yet are the most poorly described vegetation types of the state. Figure 1 highlights both the vast expanse of Montana grasslands and the sparseness of available detailed community characterizations (particularly in northeastern Montana). To date, studies characterizing grassland and shrubland communities of Montana have been of limited geographical and ecological scope. The most extensive existing studies include Mueggler and Stewart's (1980) in western Montana, Jorgensen's (1979) and Harvey's (1982) studies in east-central Montana, and Hansen and Hoffman's (1985) work in southeastern Montana. A recent dissertation (Harvey 1990) describing the major component species of grassland/shrubland communities of south-central Montana in relation to water availability gradients has bearing on community distribution on regional landscapes.

Grassland and shrubland studies available for the northeastern Montana study area, that at least in part are classifications, include Branson et al. (1970), Mackie (1970), and Dusek (1971); but, all of these studies cover relatively small geographic areas and have no associated formal taxonomies (keys to community types or plant associations).

Relevant grassland/shrubland classifications from adjacent states and provinces include: Whitman and Hanson (1939), Coupland (1950; 1961), Hansen et al. (1984), Hansen (1985), Girard et al. (1989), and Jones (1992).

In contrast to grasslands and shrublands, the classification of forest types of Montana is largely complete, at least for late seral (mature) to climax associations. The upland forest classification of Pfister et al. (1977), based largely on sampling National Forest and immediately adjacent lands, has been refined and complemented by the work of Cooper and Pfister (1981; 1985) and Roberts et al. (1979) on Montana indian reservations and Roberts (1980), Hoffman and Hansen (1981), and Hansen and Hoffman (1985) for other publicly held lands. A Montana-wide habitat/community type classification of riparian/wetland sites (including forest-, shrub-, and herb-dominated plant associations and communities) has recently been completed (Hansen et al. 1995).

Prior to initiating field sampling, literature review and data from previous research was used to develop a preliminary classification of northeastern Montana's plant communities. Forested communities in the study area have been largely described by Roberts (1980) and Roberts et al. (1979) while riparian community types have been defined by Hansen et al. (1995). Grasslands and shrublands were found to be the least documented plant communities of the area and were thus the focus of data collection in this study.

Figure 1. Number of grassland plant community Element Occurrence Records (EOR's) in the Montana Natural Heritage Program database (as of 11/21/89), by county. The shaded area represents grassland ecoregions of Montana as defined by Omernik (1987). The northeastern Montana study area is delimited by the thick black line.

#### STUDY AREA

The study area (Figure 1) includes all lands north of the Missouri River in Blaine, Phillips, Valley, Daniels, Roosevelt, and Sheridan counties; Hill County east of the Milk River; and Hill and Choteau Counties east of the Northeastern Montana Glaciated Plains Ecoregion (as defined by Omernik and Gallant [1987]).

#### Physiography

The study area encompasses approximately 12.5 million acres and ranges in elevation from about 1,900 feet on the Missouri River at the North Dakota border to 6,900 feet at the summit of Mount Baldy in the Bear's Paw Mountains. Except for the Bear's Paw and Little Rocky Mountains, the area lies entirely within the Glaciated Missouri Plateau section of the Great Plains Physio-graphic Province (see Fig. 6 in Montagne et al. 1982). The southern boundary of this section is defined by the southern limit of continental glaciation during the last ice age (Pleistocene Epoch). For the most part, these plains consist of relatively flat to gently rolling sedimentary (particularly shale) and glacial till surfaces modified by stream erosion and past glaciation (Veseth and Montagne 1980). Some areas of moderately to sharply dissected badlands topography do occur, particularly along the Missouri River and Frenchman Creek drainages.

The Bear's Paw and Little Rocky Mountains occur as isolated "island" uplifts within the study area. A wide range of parent materials occur within these mountain ranges although the central portions of both ranges are predominantly intrusive igneous (Veseth and Montagne 1980).

#### Climate

Most of the study area experiences the extreme summer heat and winter cold of a continental climate and lies directly in the path of many arctic air masses from the north (Montagne et al. 1982). Average annual precipitation varies from over 30 inches at the crest of the Bear's Paw Mountains to between 10 and 12 inches throughout the bulk of the study area (see sheet 2 in Ross and Hunter 1976). The average length of the freeze-free season varies from less than 70 days at the crest of the Bear's Paw Mountains to greater than 130 days along portions of the Milk River (see Fig. 13 in Montagne et al. 1982).

#### **METHODS**

#### **Data Collection**

To maximize the efficiency in sampling the range of vegetation and environmental variation, sample sites were selected using a modification of the "gradsect" (gradient transect) method described and evaluated by Gillison and Brewer (1985) and applied successfully by Austin and Heyligers (1989). The method, as applied in the present study, involved selecting a set of USGS 7.5' (1:24,000) topographic quadrangle maps containing the maximum perceived range of shrubland/grassland environmental variation in the overall study area. Emphasis was placed on representing the range of moisture, temperature, radiation, and soil nutrient regimes since these factors are presumed (and well documented elsewhere) to have a primary influence on species occurrence and growth.

The following site attribute information was overlaid onto a USGS quadrangle index map of the study area to select quadrangles for sampling among the approximately 470 potentially available:

a) land use (from Fig. 23 of Montagne et al. 1982) - quadrangles falling predominately (i.e., over 50%) in agricultural land uses were excluded from further consideration.

- b) average annual precipitation (from Sheet 2 of Ross and Hunter 1976) three classes were subjectively defined, i.e., <12 inches, 12 16 inches, >16 inches. This attribute was regarded as an indicator of moisture regime.
- c) average length of freeze-free season (from Fig. 13 of Montagne et al. 1982) three classes were subjectively defined, i.e., <100 days, 100 120 days, and >120 days. This attribute was regarded as a indicator of temperature regime.
- d) **surficial geology** (from Figs. 9, 13, 17, 21, 23, 25, and 32 of Veseth and Montagne 1980) the six classes represented by the Veseth and Montagne figures were used (Figs. 21 and 23 were subjectively merged). This attribute was regarded as a surrogate for nutrient regime.
- e) Radiation regime was considered and rejected in the process of defining gradsect units since it varies greatly at relatively fine geographic scales for different slopes and aspects, particularly in complex, finely dissected terrain. However plot selection in the field attempted to include a wide range of slope/aspect combinations in each sampling area as a means to capture vegetation response to radiation differences.

A total of 175 plots were targeted for sampling based on the time available for this study (note: only 125 plots were ultimately sampled via the gradsect approach). A total of 5 plots/selected quadrangle were chosen as a reasonable average to represent local-scale patterns in community composition. Thus, 35 quadrangle maps were selected for sampling (i.e.,  $5 \times 35 = 175$ ).

After eliminating agriculturally dominated quadrangles from the pool (this reduced the number of quadrangles from about 470 to 221), a matrix of precipitation/freeze-free classes was constructed and the number of quadrangles in each class was recorded. The percentage in each class relative to the total number of quadrangles (221) was used to determine the number of quadrangles (by class) to be included in the pool to be sampled (e.g., 25% in class Z x 35 sample quadrangles = 9 plots of class Z in the sample pool).

An attempt was made to maximize surficial geology variation within the sample pool by including as many geologic classes as possible within each of the above sample classes. Also, sample quadrangle selection was biased towards quadrangles that included the greatest number of geologic classes within a precipitation/ freeze-free class. Additionally, an attempt was made to maximize the geographic dispersion of quadrangles selected while maintaining the primary objective of maximizing environmental variation.

Finally, in cases of an equal choice between selecting a quadrangle encompassing primarily private land versus one encompassing primarily public land, the public land quadrangle was selected. This was done to enhance the ease of land access.

To minimize the confounding nature of heavy disturbance on vegetation composition areas intensively grazed (overgrazed), herbicide treated, mechanically disturbed, artificially seeded, or irrigated were not sampled. Plots were established within portions of stands that appeared to be relatively uniform in topography and vegetation structure and composition. Within an area, one to five plots were chosen to reflect the different topographic positions, aspect/slope combinations and where judgement indicated a marked change in vegetation composition.

Plot selection focused on contemporary stands of vegetation without reference to successional relationships among stands. No attempt was made to solely locate and sample remnants of presettlement vegetation.

The data were recorded on a Natural Heritage Program Community Survey Form for each plot. These forms

basically contain the same information as the general plot data and ocular plant species data forms used by the USDA Forest Service within their ECODATA sampling regime (USDA 1987). Complete lists and canopy cover estimates of vascular plant species were recorded within each 375 m² circular study plot. Site information such as altitude, slope, aspect, parent material, landform, and erosion type were also recorded for each plot (Table 1). Soil taxon was recorded when a survey report was available for the site.

Two additional partial field seasons were spent collecting community data following the initial data collection and analysis. In 1992 R. DeVelice and L. Roe inventoried additional sites in the Big Dry Resource Area. In 1993 S. Cooper sampled two specific areas that have potential as ACEC's, Saddle Butte just south of the Little Rockies and Bitter and Frenchman Creek drainages, a vast area of badlands-like topography northwest of Glasgow, MT. Data sets from Big Dry R. A., Saddle Butte and Bitter Creek areas were compared with the preliminary classification (DeVelice et al. 1991) and were found to fit, with only minor modifications to the vegetation key and reallocation of plots to community types. Several community types new to the state were discovered with both the extensive sampling in the Big Dry R.A. and with intensive sampling of the Bitter Creek area.

#### Data Analysis

Analysis focused on using a combination of classification, to determine community types, and ordination (gradient analyses), to describe general patterns of communities in relation to environmental factors. All information regarding site variables and plant composition was converted to an ECODATA database format and analyzed with programs based in ECADS (Ecosystem Classification and Description System, USDA Forest Service R-1). Classification was accomplished using two-way indicator species analysis (TWINSPAN; Hill 1979a) in the ECODATA analysis package. Ordination was achieved using the detrended correspondence analysis (DCA) and detrended canonical correspondence analysis (DCA) algorithms in the CANOCO computer package (Ter Braak 1988). The input data were species cover values recorded in each plot and, in the case of DCCA, the 18 environmental variables recorded (Table 1; note - radiation index was used in these analyses rather than aspect). Both TWINSPAN and DCA are based on the same mathematical strategy (i.e., reciprocal averaging; Hill 1979a,b) and thus offer direct comparisons between the results of ordination and classification.

All default options in the TWINSPAN algorithm were used except that pseudospecies cut levels were set at 0, 2, 5, 20, and 50 percent cover. Also, all default options were used in running the ordinations except that rare species were downweighted. First, the entire data matrix of 170 stands and 230 species was analyzed. To reduce the amount of variation being considered, which is substantial in the whole matrix, the data set was also subdivided into forest, shrubland, and grassland groups which were analyzed separately.

In some instances, a particular TWINSPAN class included a plot or plots that, based on field experience and ordination patterns, appeared to be better placed in a different existing TWINSPAN class. These plots were repositioned in the classification as appropriate.

In addition to helping refine the classification, the ordinations assisted in describing and interpreting general patterns of vegetation communities and environment. For example, DCA extracts the dominant compositional gradients from the species data matrix, irrespective of site variables, whereas DCCA extracts the dominant gradients given the constraint that they must be orthogonal linear combinations of the supplied environmental variables (Ter Braak 1988).

Table 1.--Environmental variables measured at each sample plot.

ABBREVIATION	VARIABLE	VARIABLE TYPE
	VANIABLE	VARIABLE TIPE
elev	elevation (ft)	quantitative
aspect	aspect (°)	quantitative
slope	slope (%)	quantitative
rad	radiation index	quantitative
soil	soil cover (%)	quantitative
gravel	gravel cover (%)	quantitative
rock	rock cover (%)	quantitative
litter	litter cover (%)	quantitative
wood	wood cover (%)	quantitative
moss	moss cover (%)	quantitative
basal	basal veg. cov. (%)	quantitative
alluv eolian till sedm igne	parent material alluvium eolian glacial till sedimentary igneous	categorical
mtn rolling break plat kame flood	landform mountains rolling uplands breaklands plateaus kames and kettles alluvial forms	categorical
vall draw short lower mid ridge	plot position valley bottom draw short slope lower slope mid slope ridge	categorical
even convex concave undulate	slope shape even convex concave undulating	categorical

Table 1.--(continued)

ABBREVIATION	VARIABLE	VARIABLE TYPE
stable- stable- unstable unstable+	soil surface status stable stable (erosion trend) unstable unstable (stable trend)	categorical
noeros sheet rill shril shgul gully wind	erosion type none sheet rill sheet and rill sheet and gully sheet, rill, and gully wind	categorical
undistur low mod high	ground cov. disturbance undisturbed low moderate high	categorical

#### **Taxonomic Considerations**

Nomenclature follows Kartesz and Kartesz (1985) with the exception of graminoids. With the current flux in graminoid taxonomy (e.g. such a common rangeland dominant as bluebunch wheatgrass having scientific epithets *Agropyron spicatum*, *Elymus spicatus*, *Elytrigia spicata* and *Pseudoroegneria spicata*) we opted to follow the conservative approach of the U.S. Forest Service ECODATA manual, appendix K, 1992). In an preliminary version of this document (DeVelice et al. 1991) we did not discriminate between *Stipa spartea* var. *curtiseta* and *S. comata* in respect to ecological information conveyed by their respective occurrences (only two for *S. spartea* v. *curtiseta*). Further sampling in northernmost MT and comparison with ecological classifications of Canandian Provinces (Coupland 1961) and exhaustive taxonomic descriptions by Barkworth (1978) lead to the conclusion that *S. comata* and *S. curtiseta* (ne. *S. spartea* v. *curtiseta*) are valid taxonomic entities with rather distinct ecologies. Scientific names of all species in this study, their code names, and their synonyms (from GPFA 1986) are listed in Appendix A.

#### **RESULTS**

## **Vegetation/Community Type Classification**

Classification of the original 125 plots resulted in the definition of 24 community types. In addition to the 24 types sampled an additional 54 community types were documented thru a literature and database query and these 78 types constituted the vegetation types of the preliminary analysis. With extension of sampling to the Big Dry R.A.., the intensive sampling at Birch-Frenchman Creek drainages and Saddle Butte vicinity and a more extensive database and report query, particularly of the Montana Riparian Association reports of vegetation analyses of specific drainages, an additional 35 community types were added to make the regional total 113.

Dichotomous keys to community/habitat types were abstracted from existing classifications and modified to suit any peceived changes in defining parameters for these types. Robert's (1980) keys for forest types of the Little Rockies and Bears Paw Mountains and Missouri River Breaks were only slightly modified to incorporate some forest types with bunchgrass or xeric site rhizomatous grass dominated undergrowth; these drier forest types largely represent range extensions of common types previously described by Pfister et al. (1977) and Hansen and Hoffman (1988). The above noted authors have adequately described the various types and no description is provided herein for types previously described, especially since our n-number is low.

Montana's wetland/riparian vegetation has been classified and described by the Montana Riparian Association (Hansen et al. 1995) and we have followed their Northern Great Plains keys in constructing our study area specific keys. We have modified some of their type defining coverage values to better reflect conditions as we perceived them in study area. Based on an informal agreement to partition sampling between MRA (riparian/wetlands) and MTNHP (uplands) we did not collect wetlands data except in the instance of some badlands areas that had received little sampling by MRA.

The eastern Montana grasslands have been incorporated into a key-accessible classfications only in the work of Hansen and Hoffman (1988) for some districts of the Custer National Forest and Jorgensen (1979) for the Yellow Water Triangle. Mueggler and Stewart's (1980) habitat type classification for western Montana describes many community types that extend with some slight floristic modification (and more signifianct change in landscape position or other defining parameters) to eastern Montana). We have attempted to synthesize these classifications with our interpretations of environment-vegetation relationships to derive workable keys.

Regardless of physiognomic type, in constructing vegetation keys our defining precept has been to identify types in order according to their occurrence on a hypothetical moisture gradient, from wet to dry. Community types with extroidinary defining physical site attributes, such as those of saline playas or erosive shale substrates are also given priority in the keys.

Those community/habitat types with written descriptions in this manuscript have been highlighted in the keys and in the community type listing (Appendix C), that also records their S and G ranks. Appendix D is a listing of plot placement by community type. The constancy/cover tables (Appendix C) can be used to check the cover values listed in the written descriptions of the various types. Constancy is the percentage of plots in which a given species occurs, whereas species cover is the average value for canopy cover computed only for those plots in which the species occurs. Consulting constancy/cover tables gives a more complete picture of community type composition. In order to streamline the constancy/cover tables only species occurring with at least 3% cover are listed; in most cases this has not removed from the tables those species used to characterize certain of the types, however some species never occur with appreciable cover values and thus they may not be listed, though their constancy is high (they will be named in the community type narrative).

## **Vegetation-Environment Relationships**

Plots within a community type/plant association of the DCA and DCCA ordinations (see Figure 3 and Appendix H respectively, see DeVelice et al. 1991) cluster together indicating that they occupy similar compositional and environmental multidimensional space. The primary environmental factors affecting community composition gradients appear to be effective moisture and soil disturbance. Temperature gradients are relatively truncated within the study area (excepting the few mountainous environments with appreciable relief) and inferred to be of minor importance. All of the plots sampled were selected within similar thermal environments characterized by extreme summer heat and winter cold.

DCA ordinations of the initial 125 plot data set revealed that 116 plots cluster near the origin of axes 1 and 2 and that the outliers were composed of the "badlands" types such as *Artemisia longifolial Oryzopsis hymenoides* and *Sarcobatus vermiculatus-Atriplex gardnerii* (Figure 2a). When axes 1 and 3 are plotted (Figure 2b) another outlier community type, *Juniperus horizontalis/Andropogon scoparius*, typical of eroded

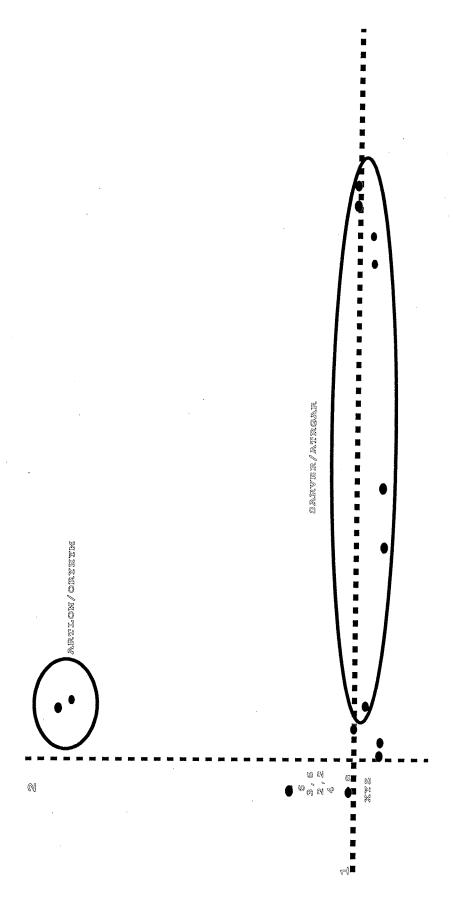


Figure 2a. DCA (Detrended Correspondence Analysis) ordinations. The first axis is the horizontal axis and the second axis is the vertical axis. Initial dataset of all 125 plots displayed; dots represent individual plots; single digit numbers or those separated by comma indicate the number of multiple plots at that locus on ordination diagram; X, Y, and Z represent 12, 54, and 14 plots at their respective ordination positions.

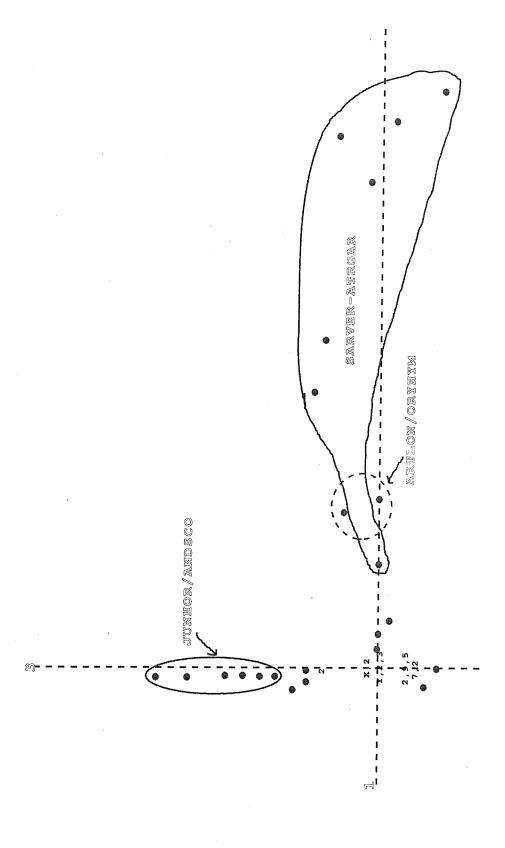


Figure 2b. DCA (Detrended Correspondence Analysis) ordinations. The first axis is the horizontal axis and the vertical axis displays the variation of plots in the third dimension of environmental space. Initial dataset of all 125 plots displayed, single digit numbers or those separated by comma indicate the number of multiple plots at that locus on ordination diagram, X, Y, and Z represent 20, 27, and 21 plots at their respective ordination positions

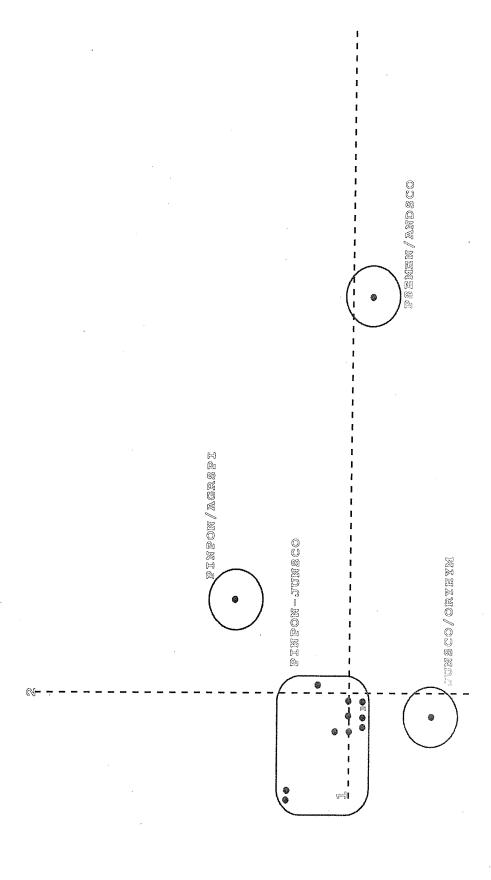


Figure 2c. DCA (Detrended Correspondence Analysis) ordinations. Initial 16 forested plots of the original 125 plot sample, plotted on first (horizontal) and second (vertical) axes. Community types encapsulated and named by six letter species acronyms (see appendix A for listing).

"blowout" sites is revealed. Stratification of the dataset by dominant lifeform revealed more detail about environment-vegetation relations by allowing the variability in environmental factors to be displayed, rather than compressed toward the origin as occurs with a highly heterogeneous dataset representing all lifeforms. Similarity indices computed between plots the initial dataset and those of subsequent sampling indicated that the subsequent plots were, with but two exceptions (*Juniperus horizontalis*- and *Populus tremuloides*-dominated sites), highly similar to those composing the original dataset and thus further ordinations were deemed superfluous.

#### **CONCLUSIONS**

One function of the MTNHP is the development of a statewide database of plant community occurrences. A major limitation is the current lack of a comprehensive grassland/shrubland community classification. This study represents a step towards achieving such a comprehensive classification.

Another function of the MTNHP is to provide information regarding communities and sites for conservation. A classification such as this is necessary to define and identify key elements and sites in northeastern Montana for potential long-term preservation. Similarly, government agencies could use the classification for the identification and design of natural areas.

This classification can be usefully applied in stratifying vegetation/environmental variation to assess management options and results. The classification can also assist in minimizing impacts from intensive management by identifying sensitive plant communities (e.g., PSEMEN/SCHSCO). The classification also provides a tool for baseline monitoring and predicting long-term vegetation responses to management activities. This capability would also assist agencies in meeting regulatory mandates (e.g., requirements of FLPMA).

Even following this study, existing classifications and data inadequately describe the grassland and shrubland communities of Montana. Major additional field sampling is necessary before a comprehensive grassland/shrubland community classification can be developed. This study in eastern Montana will continue over the next two years. This effort will provide additional knowledge regarding community patterns, processes, and physical environment relations. Such knowledge will be invaluable towards developing full capability to inventory eastern Montana communities and to increase predictive capability (e.g., build vegetation and biodiversity models).

Table 2. Key to plant associations/community types of northeastern Montana study area (Bureau of Land Management Havre, Valley, Phillips and Big Dry Resource Areas).

The following canopy coverage and reproductive success terms are applied when referring to species in the keys.

Present: species on site and not confined to microsite

**Absent**: species lacking on site or confined to obvious microsite that does not represent overall plot environment

Common: with 1% or more canopy cover, versus

Scarce: having less 1% canopy cover.

**Well represented**: having 5% or more canopy cover, versus **Poorly represented**: having less than 5% canopy cover

**Abundant**: having 25% or greater canopy cover **Not abundant**: having less than 25% canopy cover

Reproducing successfully: Generally at least 10 seedlings/

saplings per acre and not confined to microsites

Caveats when using keys: 1) In applying the key to actual field conditions the definitions below may need to be adjusted to the next lower coverage class, e.g. "well represent" becomes "common." This may be necessary when closed canopy stage of forest succession obtains, or when grazing pressure (intense) has altered community composition. 2)In the case of early successional stages, particularly with regard to potentially forested sites, the current stand composition may not "key out" to a described c.t. or h.t.; this is because the keys are intended for use with relatively mature vegetation. See Keane and Arno (1987) or Steele (1988) for an approach dealing with classification and description of seral vegetation (forest).

## **KEY TO LIFEFORM CATEGORIES**

(Note that within each lifeform category there are separate keys for upland sites (listed first), those with better drainage and thought not to meet all three criteria for jurisdictional wetlands (i.e. hydric soils, hydrophytic plants, and wetland hydrology) and wetland and riparian sites; some community types are encompassed in both wetland and upland keys because site conditions may span the range between jurisdictional and functional wetlands (wherein only one of the above listed criteria may be met).

2. Shrub species (from prostrate forms to tall extremes of woody growth at 25 ft.), singly or considering their combined cover, having at least 10% canopy cover (or in young stands accepting that fututre development will

eventuate in at least !0% canopy cover)	tie:
<ol> <li>Herbaceous species (forbs and graminoids [grass-like plants, such as rushes and sedges] having at least 5% canop cover</li></ol>	ties -
KEY TO UPLAND FORESTS AND WOODLANDS (largely based on Roberts [1989] and Roberts et al. [1979] as being most regionally appropriate classifications, though certain types are also described by Pfister et al.[1977] and Hansen and Hoffman [1988])	
Series Key	
1. Abies lasiocarpa (subalpine fir) present and reproducing successfully	es 2
2. Picea (spruce) spp. (including P. engelmannii [Engelmann spruce] and/or P. glauca [white spruce] or their hybrids) present and reproducing successfully	es 3
3. <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i> (Douglas-fir) present and reproducing successfully <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i> Seri 3. <i>P. menziesii</i> absent or not reproducing successfully	es 4
4. <i>Pinus flexilis</i> (limber pine) present and reproducing successfully (although episodically at times) <i>Pinus flexilis</i> Seri 4. <i>P. flexilis</i> absent or not successfully reproducing	es 5
5. Pinus contorta (lodgepole pine) in virtually pure stands, not necessarily reproducing, lacking evidence as to climax potential	
S. Pinus ponderosa present, not accidental or confined to microsites	
Key to Abies lasiocarpa (subalpine fir) plant associations/community types	
. Linnaea borealis (twinflower) common	а. 2
. Juniperus communis (common juniper) or Festuca idahoensis (Idaho fescue) dominate the undergrowth	
. Not as above	a. ilt

## Key to Picea (spruce) spp. plant associations/community types

1. Equisetum spp. (horsetails, principally E. arvense) abundant       Picea spp./Equisetum arvense p.a.         1. Equisetum spp. not abundant       2
2. Cornus stolonifera (C. sericea, red osier dogwood) present       Picea spp./Cornus stolonifera p.a.         2. C. stolonifera absent       3
3. Linnaea borealis (twinflower) common
4. Juniperus communis dominates undergrowth
Key to Pseudotsuga menziesii (Douglas-fir) plant associations/ community types
1. Cornus canadensis (bunchberry) common       Pseudotsuga menziesii/Cornus canadensis p.a.         1. C. canadensis scarce       2
2. Linnaea borealis (twinflower) common    Pseudotsuga menziesii/Linnaea borealis p.a.      2. L. borealis scarce    3
3. Two of the following three species present and not confined to microsites; Viola canadensis, Thalictrum occidentalis, Osmorhiza spp. (mostly O. chilensis, respectively Canada violet, western meadworue, mountain sweet-root)
4. Amelanchier alnifolia (western serviceberry) or Spiraea betulifolia (shiny-leaf spiraea) well represented
5. Berberis repens (creeping barberry) common
6. Arctostaphylos uva-ursi (kinnikinnick) well represented
7. Symphoricarpos occidentalis (western snowberry or S. albus, common snowberry) well represented
8. Muhlenbergia cuspidata (plains muhly) well represented
9. Juniperus scopulorum (Rocky Mountain juniper) well represented Pseudotsuga menziesii/Juniperus scopulorum p.a. 9. J. scopulorum poorly represented
10. Agropyron spicatum (Pseudoroegneria spicata, bluebunch wheatgrass) well represented or undergrowth dominant
10. A. spicatum poorly represented or not the undergrowth dominant

11. Andropogon scoparius (little bluestem) undergrowth dominant Pseudotsuga menziesii/Andropogon scoparius p.a. 11. Not as above, A. scoparius not dominating undergrowth Undefined type, but first consult Roberts (1980) Pfister et al. (1977)
Key to Pinus contorta (lodgepole pine) plant associations/community types
1. Linnaea borealis (twinflower) common    Pinus contortalLinnaea borealis p.a.      1. L. borealis scarce    2
Juniperus communis (common juniper) or Arctostaphylos uva-ursi (kinnikinnick) the dominant undergrowth
Key to Pinus flexilis (limber pine) plant associations/community types
Agropyron spicatum (Pseudoroegneria spicata, bluebunch wheatgrass) well represented or the undergrowth dominant
Key to Pinus ponderosa (ponderosa pine) plant associations/community types
Amelanchier alnifolia (western serviceberry) well represented (be sure to consider browsing intensity when assigning cover values
2. Arctostaphylos uva-ursi (kinnikinnick) well represented
3. Berberis (Mahonia) repens (creeping barberry) well represented
4. Symphoricarpos occidentalis (western snowberry) well represented
5. Juniperus horizontalis (creeping juniper) or Rhus trilobata (R. aromatica, skunk-bush sumac) common
6. Juniperus scopulorum (Rocky Mountain juniper) well represented Pinus ponderosa-Juniperus scopulorum p.a. 6. J. scopulorum poorly represented 7
7. Carex pensylvanica (C. inops, C. heliophila, long stolon or sun sedge) and/or Andropogon scoparius (Schizachyrium scoparium, little bluestem) dominate the undergrowth
8. A. scoparius well represented or dominates the undergrowth Pinus ponderosa/Andropogon scoparius c.t. 8. Carex pensylvanica dominates the undergrowth, usually well represented Pinus ponderosa/Carex heliophila p.a.

9. Festuca idahoensis (Idaho fescue) or F. scabrella (F. campestris, rough fescue) common
9. F. idahoensis and F. scabrella scarce
10. Agropyron spicatum (bluebunch wheatgrass) well represented or the undergrowth dominant
10. Not as aboveUndefined type, see Hansen and Hoffman (1988) or Pfister et al. (1977)
Key to <i>Juniperus scopulorum</i> (Rocky Mountain juniper) plant associations/community types
Oryzopsis micrantha (littleseed ricegrass) common
Agropyron spicatum well represented or undergrowth dominant Juniperus scopulorum/Agropyron spicatum p.a.     A. spicatum poorly represented, not dominant
Key to Upland Shrub Plant Associations/Community Types
1. Combined cover of all species in tall shrub (≥ 4.5 ft.) layer at least well represented       2         1. Tall shrub species combined cover poorly represented       5
2. Crataegus succulenta (succulent hawthorn) or C. douglasii (black hawthorn) well represented or the dominant shrubs
2. C. succulenta and C. douglasii poorly represented
3. Shepherdia argentea (silver or thorny buffaloberry) well represented or dominant species of tall shrub layer
3 S. argentea poorly represented and not the dominant of the tall shrub layer4
4. Eleagnus commutata with at least 15% canopy cover       Eleagnus commutata c.t.         4. E. commutata with less than 15% canopy cover       5
5. Prunus virginiana well represented and dominant species of tall shrub stratum
6. Sarcobatus vermiculatus (black greasewood), Atriplex nuttallii (A. gardnerii, Gardner's saltsage) or Atriplex confertifolia (shadscale), singly or in aggregate, well represented or dominants of shrub layer
7. A confertific (abords as la) well as a second of the se
7. A. confertifolia (shadscale) well represented or the layer dominant/co-dominant 8 7. A. confertifolia poorly represented, not layer dominant 9
8. Artemisia spp. poorly represented and not layer dominant/co-dominant

9. A. nuttallii poorly represented, not layer dominant
10. Shrubs in addition to <i>A. nuttallii</i> (Gardner's saltsage) well represented or layer dominant/co-dominant 10. Excepting <i>A. nuttlallii</i> , shrubs poorly represented and not shrub layer dominants/co-dominants
11. Sarcobatus vermiculatus (black greasewood) well represented or at least co-dominant with A. nuttallii
11. S. vermiculatus poorly represented, not approaching Atriplex nuttallii in degree of dominance
12. Artemisia tridentata (big sagebrush) well represented or layer codominat Artemisia tridentata-Atriplex nuttallii c 12. A. tridentata poorly represented and not the layer dominant/co-dominant Undefined/unrecorded shrub type
13. Eriogonum pauciflorum (few-flowered buckwheat) common or dominant of forb-grass layer
13. E. pauciflorum scarce or not forb-grass layer dominant
14. Sporobolus airoides (alkali sacaton) well represented or dominant of forb-grass layer
14. S. airoides poorly represented & not grass-forb layer dominant
15. Agropyron (Pascopyrum) smithii (western wheatgrass) or A. dasystachyum (thickspike wheatgrass) well-represented or layer dominants, singly or combined
16. Sarcobatus vermiculatus (black greasewood) well represented or layer dominant/co-dominant
17. Agropyron smithii (western wheatgrass) well represented or layer dominant
17. A. smithii poorly represented & not layer dominant
18. Artemisia cana (silver sagebrush) well represented; if other spp. of Artemisia present, coverage of A. cana not more
than one cover class less
<ol> <li>Agropyron smithii (western wheatgrass) or A. dasystachyum (thickspike wheatgrass) well represented (only common if grazing moderate to intensive)</li></ol>
20. Stipa comata (needle-and-thread) or Bouteloua gracilis (blue grama) well represented or dominate the
herbaceous layer
21. Ceratoides (Eurotia, Krascheninnikovia) lanata (winterfat) well represented1821. C. lanata poorly represented19
22. Stipa comata (needle-and-thread) well represented
23. Juniperus horizontalis (creeping juniper) well represented or the dominant shrub

23. J. horizontalis poorly represented or not dominant shrub
24. Juncus balticus (baltic rush) or Juncus (rush) spp. common Juniperus horizontalis/Juncus balticus of 24. J. balticus or Juncus spp. scarce
25. Andropogon scoparius (Schizachyrium scoparium, little bluestem) well represented
25. A. scoparius poorly represented
26. Agropyron dasystachyum (thickspike wheatgrass), Stipa viridula (green needlegrass) or Stipa curtiseta (porcupine needlegrass) well represented, singly or combined cover, or common under grazing pressure
26. A. dasystachyum, S. viridula, and S. curtiseta, singly or combined, poorly represented
27. Carex pensylvanica (C. inops, C. heliophila, long-stonon or sun sedge) well represented
27. C. pensylvanica poorly represented
28. Calamovilfa longifolia (prairie sandgrass) or Calamagrostis montanensis (plains reedgrass) well represented or dominating the herbaceous layer
29. Agropyron spicatum (Pseudoroegneria spicata, bluebunch wheatgrass) well represented (common if under grazing pressure)
30. Artemisia tridentata (big sagebrush) well represented (adjust cover upwards if burned shrub skeletons on site or try to estimate pre-burn shrub cover)
31. Festuca scabrella (F. campestris, rough fescue) well represented (common, if grazing pressure, including wildlife, > moderate)
32. Festuca idahoensis (Idaho fescue) well represented (common, if grazing pressure, including wildlife, > moderate)
33. Agropyron spicatum (Pseudoroegneria spicata, bluebunch wheatgrass) well represented (reduce to only common with grazing)
34. Agropyron (Pascopyrum) smithii (western wheatgrass) the dominant grass or if well represented (only common if grazing pressure intensive)
35. Stipa comata (needle-and-thread) and/or Bouteloua gracilis (blue grama) the dominant grasses
35. S. comata and B. gracilis not the dominant grasses Undefined/unrrecorded Artemisia tridentata Series c.t./h.t
36. <i>Rhus trilobata</i> ( <i>R. aromatica</i> , skunk-bushwell sumac) well represented or dominant shrub

37. Agropyron spicatum (Pseudoroegneria spicata, bluebunch wheatgrass) well represented (common, if grazing moderate to intensive)
38. Calamovilfa longifolia (prairie sandgrass) well represented
39. Yucca glauca (soapwell) well represented
40. Calamovilfa longifolia (prairie sandgrass) well represented
KEY TO UPLAND GRASSLANDS AND FORB-DOMINATED PLANT ASSOCIATIONS/COMMUNITY TYPES
<ol> <li>Herbaceous vegetation (graminoids &amp; forbs) dominant; shrubs, if present, widely scattered with coverage less than 5% or is half-shrubs such as Artemisia frigida (fringed sage) or Gutierrezia sarothrae (broom snakeweed); if desire to establish nature of potential natural vegetation determine site's fire and grazing history</li></ol>
2. Deschampsia cespitosa (tufted hairgrass) or various moist-site Carex spp. dominant (sites supporting Carex spp. such as C.rostrata, C.aquatilis, C. athrostachya, C. nebrascensis tend to wetland conditions and sho uld be tracked through wetland key)  Deschampsia cespitosa-Carex spp. c.t.  Not as above  3
3. Juncus balticus (baltic rush) common, not restricted to microsites       Juncus balticus c.t.         3. J. balticus scarce, or confined to microsites       3
4. Poa pratensis (Kentucky bluegrass) abundant or the dominant graminoid (may be wetland site, soils and hydrology need examination; see wetland key of Hansen et al. (1995)
5. Artemisia longifolia (longleaved sagewort) common or the dominant/co-dominant species on sites with depauperate canopy cover (usually <10% total cover) a high percentage of exposed substrate, usually clays typical of badlands topograpy
6. Andropogon scoparius (Schizachyrium scoparium, little bluegstem) or A. gerardii (big bluestem) well represented 7 6. Andropogon spp. poorly represented
7. A. gerardii (big bluestem) well represented, Calamovilfa longifolia (prairie sandgrass) common  Andropogon gerardii-Calamovilfa longifolia c.t. 7. A. gerardii poorly represented
8. Muhlenbergia cuspidata (plains muhly) well represented Andropogon scoparius-Muhlenbergia cuspidata c.t. 8. M. cuspidata poorly represented 9

9. Carex filifolia (thread-leaved sedge) common	lifolia c.t spp. c.t
Festuca scabrella (F. campestris, rough fescue) well represented (or only common if grazing pressure appears moderate to intensive	11
11. F. iahoensis (Idaho fescue) well represented or co-dominant with F. scabrella (rough fescue), Agropyron spical a minor component, if present	ensis hil
12. Festuca idahoensis (Idaho fescue) well represented (only common with intensive grazing) 12. F. idahoensis poorly represented	1:
<ul> <li>13. Carex heliophila (C. inops, C. pensylvanica, sun or long-stolon sedge) well represented or co-dominant or second cover to F. idahoensis</li></ul>	<i>phila</i> c.t
<ul><li>14. Stipa curtiseta (porcupine needlegrass) well represented (only common if grazing pressure appreciable)</li><li>14. S. curtiseta poorly represented (or scarce if grazed)</li></ul>	1 <i>5</i>
15. Stipa viridula (green needlegrass) well represented	<i>idula</i> .c.t. eries.c.t.
<ul> <li>16. Agropyron spicatum (Pseudoroegneria spicata, bluebunch wheatgrass) well represented (only common, if graz pressure moderate to intensive</li></ul>	17
17. Agropyron smithii (western wheatgrass) well represented (only common, if grazed	ithii n a
18. Muhlenbergia cuspidata (plains muhly) well represented	<i>lata</i> c.t.
19. Carex filifolia (thread-leaved sedge) well represented and the dominant/co-dominant of low grass layer  Agropyron spicatum-Carex filifolia poorly represented and not dominant/co-dominant of short grasses	olia c t
20. Bouteloua gracilis (blue grama grass) well represented	cilis c.t
Rhizomatous wheatgrasses (Agropron spp.) absent; Poa secunda (Sandberg's bluegrass) usually, but not always, present	da c t
22. <i>Agropyron smithii</i> (western wheatgrass) well represented	23

23. Stipa viridula (green needlegrass) well represented
24. Carex filifolia (thread-leaved sedge) and C. stenophylla (C. eleocharis, narrow-leaved sedge) singly or combined, well
represented and dominant of short grass layer
25. Bouteloua gracilis (blue grama) well represented
26. Calamovilfa longifolia (prairie sandweed) well represented226. C. longifolia poorly represented2
27. Carex pensylvanica (C. heliophila, C. inops, long-stolon or sun sedge) well represented
27. C. pensylvanica poorly represented
28. Stipa comata (needle-and-thread) or Boutelous gracilis (blue grama) well represented or dominant/co-dominant
grasses
29. Calamovilfa longifolia (prairie sandreed) well represented or the dominant graminoid
29. C. longifolia poorly represented, not the dominant grass
30. Bouteloua gracilis (blue grama) dominant or co-dominant with <i>S. comata</i> Stipa comata-Bouteloua gracilis c. t. 30. Not as above Undefined/unrecorded Stipa comata Series c.t., see North Dakota classifications
KEY TO RIPARIAN VEGETATION (based on/modified from Hansen et al. 1995)
Key to Lifeform Groups
1. Coniferous trees present and reproducing successfully, not restricted to microsites Coniferous Tree Communities 1. Coniferous trees absent or, if present, not as successfully reproducing as deciduous tree spp., not microsite restricted 2
<ol> <li>Fraxinus pennsylvanica (green ash), Acer negundo (box elder) or Populus tremuloides (quaking aspen), singly or combined with at least 5% canopy cover or deciduous tree species, other than three named above, with single or combined coverages of at least 25% (abundant)</li></ol>
3. Shrub species, singly or their combined cover, at least 10%
Key to Coniferous Wetland Communities
1. <i>Picea</i> (spruce) spp. present and reproducing successfully

2. Equisetum arvense (field horsetail) or Equisetum (scouring ruch) spp. abundant
3. Pseudotsuga menziesii (Douglas-fir) present and successfully reproducing
<ul> <li>4. Populus (cottonwood) spp. well represented or following species, single or combined cover 1%, Cornus stolonifera (red osier dogwood), Salix (willow) spp., Actaea rubra (baneberry), E. arvense</li></ul>
5. Pinus ponderosa (ponderosa pine) present and reproducing successfully
6. Populus (cottonwood) spp. well represented or Cornus stolonifera common PINPON/CORSTO h.t. 6. Populus spp. poorly represented and C. stolonifera scarce
<ul> <li>7. Prunus virginiana (common chokecherry) or Amelanchier alnifolia (western serviceberry) well represented, singly or combined cover</li></ul>
8. Juniperus scopulorum (Rocky Mountain juniper) present and reproducing and Populus tremuloides (quaking aspen) and Fraxinus pennsylvanica (green ash) poorly represented
<ol> <li>Populus (cottonwood) spp. well represented or C. stolonifera, Poa pratensis, Agrostis stolonifera, singly or combined cover, greater than 1%</li></ol>
Key to Broad-leaved, Cold-deciduous, Wetland Forests
1. Fraxinus pennsylvanica (green ash) common (canopy cover >5%)       FRAPEN/PRUVIR h.t.         1. F. pennsylvanica scarce       2
2. Acer negundo (box elder) common  2. A. negundo scarce3  ACENEG/PRUVIR h.t.
3. Populus trichocarpa (black cottonwood) with greater canopy cover than other Populus or Salix (willow) spp. 4 3. P. trichocarpa with less canopy cover than other Populus spp. 6
<ul> <li>4. Seedling or sapling classes of <i>Populus trichocarpa</i> (black cottonwood) dominate the site; site a recently deposited alluvial bar</li></ul>
5. Shrub species abundant (>25% c.c.)  5. Shrub species not abundant
6. <i>Populus deltoides</i> (Great Plains cottonwood) with greater canopy cover than other tree species 7 6. <i>P. deltoides</i> with less canopy cover than other tree spp

7. Seedling and sapling (<5.0 in) size classes dominate the site; site is recently deposited alluvial bar
7. Pole and larger (>5.0 in) size classes dominate the site
8. Shrub species abundant POPDEL/CORSTO c.t. 8. Shrub species not abundant POPDEL/POAPRA c.t.
<ol> <li>Salix amygdaloides (peach-leaf willow) with greater canopy cover than other tree species SALAMY c.t.</li> <li>S. amydaloides canopy cover less than that of other tree species DECIDUOUS TREE SERIES not documented for study area</li> </ol>
Key to Wetland Shrub Communities
1. Salix (willow) spp. with at least 10% canopy cover       2         1. Salix spp. having less than 10% canopy cover       5
2. Salix lutea (yellow willow) having at least 10% canopy cover       3         2. S. lutea with less than 10% canopy cover       4
<ol> <li>Calamagrostis canadensis (bluejoint reedgrass), C. stricta (slimstem reedgrass) or Deschampsia cespitosa (tufted hairgrass), individual or combined canopy cover, at least %5</li></ol>
4. Salix exigua (sandbar willow) having greater canopy coverage than any other Salix (willow) spp. (excepting S. bebbiana)
5. Sarcobatus vermiculatus (black greasewood) well represented       6         5. S. vermiculatus poorly represented       7
6. Agropyron smithii (western wheatgrass) the dominant graminoid
7. Crataegus succulenta (succulent hawthorn) or C. douglasii (black hawthorn), individually or combined cover, well represented
8. Prunus virginiana (common chokecherry) with at least 10% canopy cover and having greatest canopy cover amongst the tallest statum
9. Shepherdia argentea (silver buffaloberry) having at least 15% canopy cover and with the greatest canopy cover in the tallest layer
10. Artemisia cana (silver sagebrush) well represented1110. A. cana poorly represented12

11. Agropyron smithii (western wheatgrass) the dominant graminoid ARTCAN/AGRSMI h.t. 11. A. smithii not the dominant graminoid	
12. Symphoricarpos occidentalis (western snowberry) or S. albus (common snowberry) singly or their combined coverages at least 15%	
<ul> <li>13. Rosa woodsii (woods rose) or R. acicularis (prickly rose), individually or their combined cover, having at least 15% coverage and with the greatest coverage in the tallest layer ROSWOO c.t.</li> <li>13. R. woodsii and R. acicularis or any combination of the two having less than 15% coverage and without greatest coverage of the tallest layer</li></ul>	
Key to Wetland Herbaceous Communities	
1. Carex (sedge) spp. with a combined canopy cover of at least 25% or dominant taxa of herbaceous component	
<ol> <li>Carex rostrata (beaked sedge), C. versicaria (inflated sedge), or C. atherodes (slough sedge), singly or combined coverages, well represented</li></ol>	
3. Carex aquatilis (water sedge) or C. lenticularis (lentil-fruit sedge), coverages considered separately or combined, well represented	
4. Carex nebrascensis (Nebraska sedge) having a greater coverage than any other individual Carex spp	
5. <i>Typha latifolia</i> (common cattail) or <i>T. angustifolia</i> (lesser cattail), individually or combined, having at least 25% coverage	
6. Scirpus (bulrush) spp. well represented76. Scirpus spp. poorly represented10	
7. Scirpus acutus (hardstem bulruch) or S. validus (softstem bulrush), individually or combined cover, well represented	
8. Scirpus maritimus (alkali bulrush) well represented       SCIMAR h.t.         8. S. maritimus poorly represented       9	
9. Scirpus pungens (bulruch) well represented       SCIPUN h.t.         9. S. pungens poorly represented       Unclassified Scirpus SERIES c.t.	
10. Phragmites australis (plume reed) well represented    PHRAUS h.t.      10. P. australis poorly represented    11	

11. Phalaris arundinacea (reed canarygrass)    well represented    PHAARU h.t.      11. P. arundinacea poorly represented    12
12. Spartina pectinata (prairie cordgrass) or S. gracilis (alkali cordgrass), individually or their combined coverage, well represented       SPAPEC h.t.         12. S. pectinata and S. gracilis, singly or combined coverage, poorly represented       13
13. Eleocharis palustris (common spikesedge) or E. acicularis (needle spikesedge), individually or combined, well represented
14. Deschampsia cespitosa (tufted hairgrass) well represented (only common in presence of grazing pressure) ESCES h.t.  14. D. cespitosa poorly represented
15. Distichlis spicata (inland or alkali saltgrass) well represented
16. Agropyron smithii (western wheatgrass) well represented
Key to herbaceous communities representing putative seral or anthropogenic conditions [Before using key do the following: 1) Examine the stand and determine if any shrub species are present. If so, go back through shrub key and reduce all canopy coverages to present class; 2) Lacking shrubs, retrace herbaceous key with coverage classes reduced by one class; 3) If stands still does not fit key, then use the following key to seral or disturbance induced types or unclassified wetland types.]
1. Polygonum amphibium with greater cover than any other herbaceous species       POLAMP c.t.         1. Other herbaceous species having greater coverage than P. amphibium       2
2. Salicornia rubra with a greater canopy cover than any other herbaceous species       SALRUB c.t.         2. S. rubra with less cover than any single herbaceous species       3
3. Glycyrrhiza lepidota with greater coverage than any single herbaceous species
4. Juncus balticus well represented or with greater canopy coverage than any other herbaceous species
4. <i>J. balticus</i> poorly represented and not having greater coverge than any other herbaceous species
5. Agrostis stolonifera well represented having a greater coverage than any single herbaceous species
5. A. stolonifera poorly represented and other single herbaceous species with greater cover than A. stolonifera 6
6. Hordeum jubatum with greater cover than any other single herbaceous species
7. Poa pratensis well represented or having greater cover than any other single herbaceous species POAPRA c.t. 7. P. pratensis poorly represented and other single herbaceous species having greater cover

## TREE-DOMINATED PLANT ASSOCIATIONS/COMMUNITY TYPES:

## Juniperus scopulorum/Agropyron spicatum p.a.

(JUNSCO/AGRSPI; rocky mountain juniper/bluebunch wheatgrass; 3 plots WHTF designation JUNSCO/Pseudoroegneria spicata)

**Environment:** This community type was found in low to moderate relief rolling uplands as well as in badland arroyos/drawss, often occurring adjacent to JUNSCO/ORYMIC h.t., but on warmer exposures (not strictly northfacing) with the same moderate to steep slopes. JUNSCO/AGRSPI also has more exposed soil and rock, often exceeding 50%. Three of the four sampled stands were on calcareous substates, though this h.t. is not confined to these substrates.

**Vegetation:** As a result of past cutting for fencing stands of JUNSCO/AGRSPI were rather open, with coverage of 8 to 12 ft tall *Juniperus scopulorum* not exceeding 50%, we speculate tree coverage does not much exceed this figure due to limitations of site factors. The higher coverage of shrubs (up to 20 % for *Artemisia tridentata* and *A. frigida*) reported here than in southeastern Montana (Hansen and Hoffman 1988) is also attributable to seral conditions. The undergrowth is dominated by graminoids, chief among which and diagnostic of the type is *Agropyron spicatum*, always well represented (40% ave. cover). *Carex filifolia* and *Koeleria cristata* have high constancy and *Bouteloua curtipendula* is consistently present in the easternmost occurrences of this type. Forb diversity is moderately high, but coverages are generally low, not exceeding 10% except in the most open stands.

**Other Studies:** In a study centered on southeastern Montana Hansen and Hoffman (1988) have best documented this type and Brown (1971) has also described it for badland drainages of the Ashland District, Custer National Forest. This h.t. has been described as relatively common in North Dakota and Wyoming and extends as far south as South Dakota and Colorado.

## Juniperus scopulorum/Oryzopsis micrantha p.a.

(JUNSCO/ORYMIC; Rocky Mountain juniper/little-seed ricegrass; 6 plots)

**Environment:** JUNSCO/ORYMIC is a minor type within the study area. It is usually associated with unique substates, sandstones or other well-drained surfaces, and predominantly moderate to steep north-facing slopes. In badland topography JUNSCO/ORYMIC it is associated with draws, especially cove-like positions that are protected from winds or that moisture collecting. Adjacent more exposed and warmer positions are often characterized by high erosion rates and early seral commulty types with no characteristic vegetation.

**Vegetation:** Although *Juniperus scopulorum* now usually forms a nearly closed canopy 9 to 14 ft tall, all sampled stands had been heavily cut in the past for fenceposts. An occasional Acer negundo was found in moist microsites, usually near ravine toeslopes. The undergrowth is invariably dominated by *Oryzoposis micrantha* with coverages ranging from 10 to 70%; this species is not found outside these sites. Though grass-dominated, these stands support a rich diversity of forbs, including those associated with relatively mesic sites e.g. *Smilacina stellata*, *Galium boreale*, *Geum triflorum* and *Campanula rotundifolia*.

**Other Studies:** This plant association has been described by Hansen and Hoffman (1988) for southeastern Montana and Hansen et al. (1984) for Theodore Roosevelt National Park (North Dakota). Our stands are much more similar to those of southwestern Montana, having much less undergrowth combined canopy cover than those of North Dakota; the presenceand occasionally well represented bunchgrasses indicate these sites are either drier or in earlier seral stages than those described by Hansen and Hoffman (1988).

## Pinus ponderosa/Agropyron spicatum p.a.

(PINPON/AGRSPI; ponderosa pine/bluebunch wheatgrass; 9 plots WHTF designation PINPON/Pseudoroegneria spicata)

**Environment:** In areal extent PINPON/AGRSPI is not a major study area h.t. but it is one of the most broadly distributed across MT, occurring on diverse substrates and within quite different climatic zones (due to factor compensation). In the study area this type is found predominantly on non-glaciated, well-drained sedimentary substrates (sandstone, calcareous and non, shale, calcareous and non) but was also sampled on igneous substrates. Over most of the study area in non-mountainous settings PINPON/AGRSPI is found in low to moderate relief landscapes on cooler exposures (northwest thru north to east-facing slopes) and all degrees of slope inclination; it also noted to form a ribbon along slope shoulders. Where the type is found at higher elevations in mountain foothills its position may shift to warmer exposures, including steep south-facing slopes.

All the above-cited environments are fire-prone and several of the sample stands had been recently burned. A lack of trees with fire scars probably reflects low fuel levels but could also reflect effective fire suppression. The amount of exposed substrate and litter varied widely, depending on fire history and vegetation cover, particularly that of the tree layer.

**Vegetation:** Our sampling included all but early seral stages (lacking trees or with very low density) and old-growth stages. This type most often approximates a woodland structure with *P. ponderosa* canopy cover ranging between 20 and 70%. *Juniperus scopulorum* may occur as scattered individuals. In a plains environment PINPON/AGRSPI grades to various grassland types (generally *Agropyron spicatum* dominated) on drier exposures or occasionally to PINPON-JUNSCO. In foothills/mountain settings PINPON/AGRSPI usually represents the driest forested sites.

Shrub cover, even in early seral conditions, generally does not exceed 10% and regularly includes *Artemisia tridentata*, *A. frigida*, *Rhus trilobata*, *Rosa arkansana*, and *Ribes* spp. High coverages of *Juniperus horizontalis* found occasionally in easternmost MT represent a departure from the norm but factors producing this condition were not identified; we have provisionally identified a PINPON/JUNHOR c.t. to represent this condition. Undergrowth is dominated by graminoids with the highest coverages found in early to mid-seral stands; even in this woodland type it appears that higher tree canopy cover tends to depress undergrowth cover. This type is recognized by AGRSPI being at least well represeted, usually it is abundant. Other graminoids with 50% or higher constancy are *Carex filifolia*, *C. rossii*, *Stipa comata*, and *Muhlenbergia cuspidata*; their coverages seldom exceed 10%. There are no forbs that distinguish this type and species richness varies widely (as few as 4 forbs, as many as 44). Combined forb cover does not exceed 5%, except in the case of introduced species (e.g. *Melilotus officinalis*).

Other Studies: This h.t. spans a broad geographic range, from just east of the Cascade Crest to Nebraska and south to Colorado, but its greatest areal extent (judged by S-rank) is in Montana. Pfister et al. (1977) first documented its extent in Montana, especially the western portion. Hansen and Hoffman (1988) and Cooper and Pfister (1984) have characterized it for southeastern MT and Roberts (1980) documented it for the Bears Paw Mtns and our study has extended its known range to the Little Rocky Mountains and the study area at large. The study area representation of the type fits, with minor floristic differences such as the prevalence of *Muhlenbergia cuspidata*, the type description for southeastern MT.

## Pinus ponderosa/Carex pensylvanica p.a.

(PINPON/CARPEN; ponderosa pine/long-stolon sedge; 5 plots WHTF designation PINPON/Carex inops)

**Environment:** Sampled at only five locations all within (Garfield Co.) PINPON/CARPEN (syn. *C. heliophyla* of Hansen and Hoffman 1988 and *C. inops*) is probably only an incidental type within the study area. It occurrs on

both lower slopes and ridge shoulders with sandstone (calcareous and non) substrates. Ground surface has a nearly continuous litter layer, as opposed to more open, woodland-like PINPON stands that have a high percentage of exposed substrate. Adjacent vegetation was *Artemisia cana/Agropyron spicatum* or ARTCAN/ *Stipa comata* on flats below and PINPON/AGRSPI on warmer-drier upland sites, denoting this type as relatively more mesic than others in upland landscape mosaics.

**Vegetation:** PINPON/CARHEL within the study area generally fits the type description outlined by Hansen and Hoffman (1988) for southeastern MT; the overstory is dominated by *Pinus ponderosa* but is not closed and also includes *Juniperus scopulorum* well represented. Study area stands were mature so their lack of overstory closure may reflect relatively drier environments than those occupied by this type in southeastern MT (Hansen and Hoffman 1988) or past disturbance (underburning).

Shrub dominance shifted among the four (*Artemisia tridentata*, *Rhus trilobata* and Symphoricarpos occidentalis, *Juniperus horizontalis*) commonly present and combined coverages did not exceed 10%. Undergrowth was graminoid dominated, with *Carex pensylvanica* usually abundant and *Stipa comata* and *S. spartea* important components. Because stands are (still) relatively open, coverages of shade-intolerant *Andropogon scoparius* remain high. Forbs were recorded in only trace amounts. It is possible in such a fire prone environment that some stands of ANDSCO-CARPEN h.t. represent early seral stages of PINPON/CARPEN.

Other Studies: Hansen and Hoffman (1988) have provided the most complete description of this h.t. in MT and study area examples of the type generally fit the type profile in terms of environment and species composition. Hansen and Hoffman (1988) present an argument that a very similar type, PINPON/ANDSCO described by Pfister et al. (1977), though a valid community type, is simply an earlier seral stage of PINPON/CARHEL. PINPON/CARHEL, or equivalents, have also been described from Colorado (Hoffman and Alexander 1983), Wyoming, North and South Dakota (Hoffman and Alexander 1987) and possibly Oregon (Bourgeron and Engelking 1994).

## Pinus ponderosa/Festuca idahoensis p.a.

(PINPON/FESIDA; ponderosa pine/Idaho fescue; 1 plot)

**Environment:** We sampled only one stand of PINPON/FES (Saddle Butte vicinity) but noted numerous occurrences in this area south of the main mass of the Little Rocky Mountains; this sampled stand and others observed document the northeasternmost known range of this type (was not described by Roberts [1980] for the Little Rocky Mountains immediately to the north). The sampled stand, typical for the vicinity, was on a moderate, west-facing slope with igneous parent material weathered to a well-drained sandy loam. Other stands noted generally have west- or east-facing aspects. Ground cover is dominated by litter in excess of 80% coverage. Warmer exposures supported PINPON/AGRSPI or Festuca idahoensis-Agropyron spicatum dominated grasslands and on cooler exposures PINPON/FESIDA grades to PINPON/Arctostaphylos uva-ursi or PINPON/Amelanchier alnifolia (also undocumented for the Little Rocky Mountains vicinity).

**Vegetation/Other Studies:** Little Rocky Mountains occurrences of PINPON/FEIDA qualify as the FESIDA phase, as they lack *Festuca scabrella* (syn. *F. campestris*); immediately to the west (Bears Paw Mtns.) Roberts (1980) found only the FESCSA phase. The Little Rocky Mountains do support scattered populations of *F. scabrella*, but this mountain range and immediate vicinity would appear to be the northeasternmost extent of this important range grass. This area is also at the distributional limits of *F. idahoensis*. Thus this h.t. is found east of the Cascade Crest extending to eastern MT and south to Colorado and Utah; it has not been cited for the Midwest Regional Classification 1993)

Study area stands have an open, woodland aspect with widely spaced older *Pinus ponderosa*. The undergrowth is dominated by graminoids, the diagnostic *F. idahoensis* being well represented unless intensively grazed. *Agropyron spicatum* and *Carex heliophila* are also well represented. Forb species present indicating sites more mesic than PINPON/AGRSPI include *Galium boreale*, *Geum triflorum* and *Campanula rotundifolia*. In undergrowth composition study area stands appear closer to the type as described for southeastern MT by

Hanson and Hoffman (1988) and Cooper and Pfister (1984).

## Pinus ponderosa/Juniperus horizontalis p.a.

(PINPON/JUNHOR; ponderosa pine/creeping juniper; 3 plots)

**Environment:** The three sampled stand represents a considerable range extension for PINPON/JUNHOR which was previously known only from the calcareous sandstones of the Little Rocky Mountain's foothills (Roberts 1980). These stands were all found on calcareous substrate (shale). They occurred in rolling terrain near the crests of gentle slopes.

**Vegetation:** These stands conform to the type description of Roberts (1980) wherein *Juniperus horizontalis* and *Rhus trilobata* are the dominant species in what is otherwise a relatively depauperate undergrowth; in more open stands <u>J. horizontalis</u> superficially appears to form a sward at 50% and greater coverage. These stands also shared 3/4 of the herbaceous species listed for the type by Roberts (1980).

**Other Studies:** Only Roberts (1980) has described this type (Little Rocky Mountains foothills). Miller (1978) has described a type from the Rocky Mountain Front, Pinus/JUNHOR/Festuca idahoensis, that apppears to represent an intergrade between PINPON/JUNHOR and *Pinus flexilis*/JUNHOR. Structurally PINFLE/JUNHOR is very similar to *Pinus flexilis*/Juniperus communis, also found almost exclusively on calcareous substrates (Pfister et al. 1977).

## Pinus ponderosa-Juniperus scopulorum p.a.

(PINPON-JUNSCO; ponderosa pine-Rocky Mountain juniper; 14 plots)

**Environment:** PINPON-JUNSCO was found exclusively on sedimentary parent materials, mostly shales and sandstones, both calcareous and not. It is found predominantly on gentle to steep northerly aspects of rolling terrain from Blain County eastward; however in the far eastern portion Montana it is more associated with badlands topography, the coulee slopes thereof. This type is also associated with the tops and shoulders of ridges and draws. Because we sampled relatively young to mature stands substrate conditions varied appropriately, from 70% exposed soil in young stands to 70-90% litter in older stands. Soil textures were mostly loams and sandy loams.

**Vegetation:** The variety of seral stages contributes to the broad spectrum of tree coverages from very open (20% canopy cover) to nearly closed with *Pinus ponderosa* dominating the overstory. *Juniperus scopulorum* being at least well represented is diagnostic for the type and usually, especially in mid-aged stands it is abundant; in what are ostensibly the oldest stands its cover may drop relative to that of *P. ponderosa*. Many stands appear to be hybrids between PINPON/ <u>Carex heliophila</u> of southeastern MT, PINPON/*Agropyron spicatum* of western and central MT, and/or JUNSCO/AGRSPI.

The undergrowth is dominated by varying combinations of Carex heliophila, Agropyron spicatum and Oryzopsis micrantha. Muhlenbergia cuspidata and Carex filifolia have high constancy but low coverage, usually not exceeding 10%. Calamovilfa longifolia was dominant in several young stands developed on sandstone. Forb cover seldom exceeded 5% and forb composition was highly variable in composition; Solidago missouriesis and Psoralea argophylla were the forbs even approaching 50% constancy.

**Other Studies:** Roberts (1980) has described PINPON-JUNSCO from the Missouri River Breaks as characterizing the very driest forested slopes (and benches) whereas in badlands of southeastern MT (Ashland District, Custer National Forest) Brown (1971) cited it as occurring on relatively moist, protected exposures. This type is common in North and South Dakota and Wyoming (see Hoffman and Alexander 1987) and extends south to Colorado and New Mexico (Bourgeron and Engelking 1994).

#### Pseudostuga menziesii/Symphoricarpos occidentalis p.a.

PSEMEN/SYMOCC; Douglas-fir/western snowberry; 3 plots)

**Environment:** According to Roberts (1980), PSEMEN/SYMOCC is the driest plant association within the *Pseudotsuga menziesii* series of north-central MT and the fact that all our sampled stands occurred on southerly exposures with convex surfaces with at least 20% exposed substrate tends to confirm this observation. Our sampled stands occurred just south of the Little Rocky Mountains on syenitic parent materials whereas just north in the Little Rocky Mountains Robests (1980) reported this as a minor type on calcareous parent materials. PSEMEN/SYMOCC occurs in a fine-scale mosaic with PSEMEN/ *Amelanchier alnifolia* and PSEMEN/Berberis repens, which occupy more moist/sheltered positions, and PSEMEN/ *Viola canadensis*, which occurs in yet more moist sites, generally downslope in collecting positions. PSEMEN/SYMOCC grades to *Pinus ponderosa/Festuca idahoensis* and bunchgrass-dominated steppe of yet drier exposures.

**Vegetation:** Because our samples of this type were of relatively early seral stages (< 50 years since stand-replacing wildfire) their membership in this plant association is somewhat speculative. *Pseudotsuga menziesii* is just beginning to establishon these sites that apparently were intensively burned. *Pinus ponderosa* is the seral dominant and counter to the observations of Roberts (1980) *Populus tremuloides* and *Pinus contorta* are capable of fuctioning as seral species as well; seral success of *P. contorta* and *P. tremuloides* may owe to the fact that our stands occupied acidic igneous, rather than calcareous, substrates.

Sample stands may have been subject to underburns since stand-replacing fire because tree cover is low and bunchgrasses (Schizachyrium scoparium, Agropyron spicatum, Koeleria cristata, Stipa comata) are still an important component, their combined coverages generally exceeding 30%. Shrub cover is low in stature owing to heavy ungulate browsing on potentially tall shrubs (Prunus virginana, Amelanchier alnifolia, Shepherdia canadensis) and site severity; Rosa woodsii/acicularis and Symphoricarpos occidentalis dominate the shrub layer but their combined coverage seldom exceeds 10%. Artemisia frigida is constant pointing up the early to mid-seral nuture of these stands. Solidago missouriensis, Achillea millifolium and Thermopsis montana are 100% constant but hardly diagnostic for the type.

**Other Studies:** PSEMEN/SYMOCC was first described by Roberts (1980) for the core of the Little Rockies and Bears Paw Mountains and its range has now been confirmed for the surrounding high terrain by this study; PSEMEN/SYMOCC is apparently unique to these mountain masses rising in the midst of Montana's Great Plains.

## SHRUB-DOMINATED PLANT ASSCIATIONS/COMMUNITY TYPES:

#### Artemisia cana/Agropyron smithii p.a.

(ARTCAN/AGRSMI; silver sagebrush/western wheatgrass; 6 plots WHTF designation ARTCAN/Pascopyrum smithii)

**Environment:** The ARTCAN/AGRSMI h.t. is found on level to gently sloping, narrow to extremely broad alluvial (floodplain) terraces and coalescing alluvial fans and upslope may occur in swales and gentle depressions. These sites are moister than contiguous upslope vegetation and in some cases may constitute wetland sites (none of our sampled stands were, this can only be determined by hydrological monitoring or examination of soil characteristics). Substrates are generally moderately fine to fine textured, being derived from sediments deposited in low energy environments (or in the case of basins and swales from slopewash), have a high water holding capacity and are well- to imperfectly drained. As speculated in other studies (Jorgenson 1979, Hansen et al 1991) perched or high water tables may influence the rooting zone for a portion of the year. A variety of community types were found to occur adjacent on upland sites, most commonly *Stipa comata-Bouteloua gracilis* and *Agropyron smithii-Stipa comata*, whereas moister positions were frequently dominated by the *Symphoricarpos occidentalis*, *Rosa woodsii* c.ts. or *Sarcobatus vermiculatus*-dominated types in highly erosive to badlands topography.

**Vegetation:** Artemisia cana having at least 5% canopy cover is diagostic of this type, but its cover usually exceeded 30%. None of the sites supported the robust 4-5 ft tall specimens cited by Hansen and Hoffman (1988) or Mueggler and Stewart (1980) for favorable site conditions. Artemisia frigida was consistently present in low amounts (greater than 10% where cattle grazing intensive) and other shrub species were only sporadic. Graminoids dominate the herbaceous layer with Agropryon smithii usually dominant, but in our samples Stipa viridula, S. comata and Bouteloua gracilis were all dominant or co-dominant in at least one stand (also had greater than 75% constancy). This variability is speculated to reflect differing grazing pressure as stands were not chosen for pristine condition (stand with B. gracilis dominant had A. smithii and S. viridula confined to canopies of A. cana). The forb component is insignificant; none had even 50% constancy.

**Other Studies:** This, or closely related, types have been documented in other areas of MT; southeastern (Hansen and Hoffman 1988), southwestern (Mueggler and Stewart 1980) and central (Jorgensen 1979). The most comprehensive sampling (43 stands) of this type is that performed by the Montana Riparian Association (Hansen et al. 1995) for the entire state. This type has been described only for Montana, North and South Dakota (Hansen et al. 1984).

#### Artemisia cana/Stipa comata c.t.

(ARTCAN/STICOM; silver sagebrush/needle-and-thread; 9 plots)

**Environment:** ARTCAN/STICOM is a newly described minor c.t. distributed sporadically across northern MT. from Blaine to Garfield Counties. It is found on benches to gently inclined slopes (extreme of 30% inclination) often in the vicinity of breaklands. It was sampled on well-drained alluvium, sandstone and igneous parent materials but most often encountered on mixed-origin glacial till. The ground cover was highly variable with some plots having a sward of *Selaginella densa* and lichens and other sites had 70% litter and trace amounts of *S. densa*; only one plot had as much as 10% exposed soil, gravel or rock (combined cover). ARTCAN/STICOM apparently is the driest environment capable of supporting *Artemisia cana*; this c.t. grades to a variety of graminoid-dominated, upland range sites, most often STICOM- *Bouteloua gracilis* or STICOM- *Carex filifolia*. Adjacent moister sites often support ARTCAN/AGRSMI or SARVER/AGRSMI.

**Vegetation:** All of the sites were sampled following three years of lower than normal precipitation and were in the midst of range that had been intensively grazed for years. Because only one protected site could be found (and this due to extraordinary topographic features) this species assemblage is noted as a community type. Sites are

recognized by *Artemisia cana* being at least well represented; its cover averages 27% and usually does not exceed 40%, relatively low values for a shrub type. *Artemisia frigida* is the only other shrub exceeding 50% constancy and its cover does not exceed 3%.

Graminoids are definitely the dominant component with an average cover of 42%. Stipa comata with well represented coverage is diagnostic for the type but its average coveris 38% and on favorable sites is as great as 70%; other grasses had as high or higher cover values in several stands. Stipa comata is primarily associated with sandy substrates as are two other grasses consistently present within this community type, Calamovilfa longifolia and Andropogon scoparius (very reduced in cover due to high palatability). The grass composition and cover is quite variable, possibly reflecting past grazing practices. In stands judged to be intensively grazed Bouteloua gracilis had higher cover and Selaginella densa formed a nearly continuous carpet. Forbs are an insignificant component, present in only trace amounts; only Sphaeralcea coccinea, Psoralea argophylla and Gaura coccinea were at least 50% constant.

**Other Studies:** This c.t. has not been described in the literature and we fail to see what other recognized type of which ARTCAN/STICOM could possibly be a degraded representative. ARTCAN/STICOM occupies unique landscape positions (drier) relative to those of other *A. cana*-dominated types. Some stands have trace amounts of palatable species but also have significant coverages of other palatable species arguing that disturbance has not totally altered this type's expression.

#### Artemisia tridentata/Agropyron smithii h.t.

(ARTTRI/AGRSMI; big sagebrush/western wheatgrass; 13 plots WHTF designation ARTTRI/Pascopyrum smithii)

**Environment:** ARTTRI/AGRSMI is an extensive h.t. in the western portion of the study area but its coverage drops dramatically to the east and in Valley County only widely scattered, generally less than 5 acre stands are present. This h.t. is typically found on gently rolling (slope inclination < 10%), till-mantled surfaces; it is also found in breaklands and on well-drained alluvial terraces. Others (Hansen and Hoffman 1988, Hansen et al. 1984, Tisdale and Hironaka 1981, Jorgensen 1979, Mackie 1970) have described this type as an edaphic or topoedaphic climax, associated with heavy soils in southeastern MT or shallow, gravelly, or claypan surface soils in north-central MT; lacking adequate soils information we can only speculate based on landscape positionthat most of our sites represent edaphically controlled conditions. The amount of exposed substrate is generally considerably higher (ave. 50%, ranging to 80%) than for adjacent communities.

**Vegetation:** This type is recognized (in part) by *Artemisia tridentata* being well represented in the shrub layer, usually its cover does not exceed 50%, averaging 32%. Therer are no other shrubs with high constancy but *Chrysothamnus nauseosus*, *Artemisia frigida* and *Gutierrezia sarothrae* are regularly present with low coverages. Well represented *Agropyron smithii* is diagnostic for the herbaceous layer, though intensively grazed areas may have lower coverages (ave. cover 19%). Ease of livestock access makes these sites prone to overgrazing; none of the sampled sites were even close to pristine. Even in livestock exslosures weedy or invader species (e.g. *Melilotus officinalis*, *Taraxacum officinalis*, *Bromus tectorum*) are agressively expanding (having gained a foothold prior to exclosure creation). Somewhat inexplicably *Selaginella densa* does not seem to increase on these sites tha way it does on say ARTCAN/STICOM or other grassland sites, but it can occur with high cover values.

Graminoids with moderate to high constancy are *Stipa viridula*, *Koeleria cristata*, *Poa secunda*, and *Carex filifolia* (or C. stenophylla); of these, only *S. viridula* was noted to be an occasional layer dominant, as was *Agropyron spicatum*. *Stipa comata* was well represented on sandier sites (sandy loams). Forbs are a minor component; those with greater than 50% constancy are *Sphaeralcea coccinea* and *Vicia americana*.

**Other Studies:** ARTTRI/AGRSMI is distributed from central MT (Jorgensen 1979, Mackie 1971) east to southeastern MT and contiguous portins of North and South Dakota (Hansen and Hoffman 1988, Hansen et al. 1984) and south to Wyoming, Utah and Colorado; it is absent from far northeastern MT and not reported for the Canadian prairies.

#### Artemisia tridentata/Agropyron spicatum h.t.

(ARTTRI/AGRSPI; big sagebrush/bluebunch wheatgrass; 5 plots WHTF designation ARTTRI/Pseudoroegneria spicata)

**Environment:** ARTTRI/AGRSPI is a major shrubland type throughout non-forested regions of MT, except for the extreme norhteastern corner. Within the study area it is associated with gently rolling upland of low to moderate relief of the till-mantled glaciated plains and is also found in breaklands and on well-drained alluvial terraces. No difinitive environmental breaks could be identified to separate ARTTRI/AGRSPI from ARTTRI/AGRSMI sites but the explanation likely resides in the soil/substrate component. Jorgensen (1979) has noted both ARTTRI/AGRSPI and ARTTRI/ Agropyron dasystachyum-Agropyron spicatum phase (our ARTTRI/AGRSMI h.t.) on the certain members of the Colorado shale formation in the same restricted geographic area and speculated the difference is the degree of soil development. The young soils lack horizonation and are vertically active, features favoring A. smithii and Stipa viridula over A. spicatum because of differences in their rooting response to vertical mixing. From our cursory data it would appear ARTTRI/AGRSPI is developed on coarser textured substrates than is ART/AGRSMI.

**Vegetation:** Well represented *Artemisia tridentata* and *Agropyron spicatum* are diagnostic for this type. Shrubs with high constancy include *Gutierrezia sarothrae*, *Artemisia frigida* and *Opuntia polyacantha*, all recognized increaser species with overgrazing. Rhizomatous wheatgrasses *A. dasystachyum* and *A. smithii* are poorly represented, if present. High constancy graminoids are *Stipa viridula*, *Carex filifolia*, *Poa secunda* and *Bouteloua gracilis*, the last three being recognized increasers in this type. On sandstone substrates *Muhlenbergia cuspidata*. *Stipa comata* and *Calamovilfa longifolia* were present, frequently well represented. Though we attempted to sample at least good condition sites the accessibility ARTTRI/AGRSPI to livestocks coupled with the potential to support highly palatable grasses and fire susceptibility of the shrub component has resulted in wholesale alteration of the vegetation. Burned sites require years for *A. tridentata* to reestablish; in interval they support the AGRSPI-Bouteloua gracilis or AGRSPI-*Carex filifolia* or *Stipa comata*-BOUGRA community types.

The combined forb coverage is generally less than 5% with only *Sphaeralcea coccinea* and *Vicia americana* having high constancy. Despite intensive grazing pressure these sites have only trace amounts of *Selaginella densa*; a similar condition was observed by Jorgensen (1979) for this type in central MT.

**Other Studies:** This is a broadly distributed habitat type, from Washington State where it constitutes the climatic climax of vast acreages east of the Cascade Crest (Daubenmire 1970) east to extreme southeastern MT where it is a topographic climax (Hansen and Hoffman 1988, Brown 1971). In central MT ARTTRI/AGRSPI is considered primarily a climatic climax type, at least in areas where the prevailing substrates are Colorado Shales; in western MT it constitutes a climatic climax type under much of a 12-18 precipitation zone. Study area representations of the type conform to the type desciption given for western (Mueggler and Stewart 1980) and central MT (Jorgensen 1971) in regard to flora, landscape positions occupied and the fact that it is found on diverse parent materials.

## Atriplex confertifolia-Artemisia tridentata c.t.

(ATRCON-ARTTRI; shadscale-big sagebrush; 5 plots)

**Environment:** Within the study area ARTCON-ARTTRI is found exclusively on badlands/breaklands. The possibly unique physical/chemical nature of these sites seem to be the major factor exerting control on the distribution of this and allied communities; this borne out by fact that the community was found on contrasting aspects and positions, from low-gradient toeslopes and benches to steep slopes. Substrates were not characterized as to geological formation, but they were noted to be fine-textured (clay loams and silty clays), high in shrink-swell clays (noted by surface fissures) and highly erosive, to both water (rill and gully features, pedicelling of larger forbs and grasses) and wind (blowout depressions). The sparse vegetation contributes little litter and typically sites have 80% plus exposed substrate. Some sites have in excess of 60% exposed gravel; it could originate from surface deflation or as slopewash from upslope postions. This type often graded to ARTTRI/Agropyron spicatum or Stipa comata-Bouteloua gracilis on more conventional substrates and to Atriplex nuttallii/Sporolobus airoides on other badland surfaces.

**Vegetation:** Low (<10%) to moderate (<40%) combined coverages of *Artemisia tridentata* and *Atriplex confertifolia* characterize this type; in all but one plot *A. tridentata* cover exceeded that of *A. confertifolia*. Other shrubs are poorly represented and only *Atriplex nuttallii* had greater than 50% constancy. Graminoid coverage is highly variable, highest on benchlands and less than 10% on moderate to steep, south-facing slopes. Grasses having higher cover and constancy here as opposed to adjacent communities on more normal soils include *Sporolobus airoides*, *Aristida longiseta*, and *Oryzopsis hymenoides*. *Agropyron spicatum* may be abundant, relating these sites to ARTTRI/AGRSPI. Forbs and bryophytes are present in only trace amounts; *Oenothera cespitosa* and *Eriogonum pauciflorum* are forbs more associated with badlands than zonal sites.

Other Studies: Study area examples of ATRCON-ARTTRI appear to be very similar in vegetation and environment to a c.t. of same name described by Brown (1971) for southeastern MT badlands; our conception of ATRCON-ARTTRI includes a additional Brown-defined type (ATRCON-ARTTRI/Agropyron spicatum) described as being the most extensive of southeastern badland types. In southcentral MT the Pryor Mountains vicinity and Bighorn Canyon NRA support a compositionally similar type termed ARTTRI-ATRCON by DeVelice and Lesica (1993) and sagebrush desert shrubland by Knight et al. (1987). ARTTRI-ATRCON occurs on very different habitat, terraces and alluvial fans derived from calcareous sandstone and having a silty texture.

#### Atriplex nuttallii/perennial grass c.t.

(ATRNUT/GRASSP; saltsage/perennial grass; 4 plots)

**Environment:** ATRNUT/GRASSP is a minor type restricted to badland sites with highly erodable substrates derived from dark shales and mudstone. Please note that that in the vegetation key and various appendices, such as constancy/cover, that ARTNUT/GRASSP is split into three tentative types, ATRNUT/Agropyron smithii, ATRNUT/Sporobolus airoides, and ATRNUT/Agropyron spicatum. Insufficient plot data did not permit unequivocal recognition of these tentative community types, thus they have been lumped under ATRNUT/GRASSP until such time that they can be individually substantiated by plot data and their ecological conditions described. ATRNUT/GRASSP was sampled on moderate to steep slopes of various aspects. Combinations of the above conditions result in nearly continuous sheet, rill and gully erosion and more than 80% exposed soil and gravel preclude significant soil development. Though the fine soil fraction is dominated by clay and silt at least 40% of the soil consists of sand- and gravel-sized shale shards resulting in relatively well-drained substrates. This type usually exists in a matrix of other badland types, Sarcobatus vermiculatus-ATRNUT, ATRNUT/ERIPAU, Artemisia tridentata-Atriplex confertifolia and Juniperus horizontalis/Andropogon scoparius (on more mesic sites).

**Vegetation:** Sites are depauperate with combined canopy cover not exceeding 50%, the shrub and grass components sharing dominance. These sites differ from other badland sites by having at least 5% cover of perennial grasses, of which the following have dominated at least one site, *Agropron dasystachyum*, *A. spicatum*, *Sporobolus airoides* and *Oryzopsis hymenoides*. Only *S. airoides* is associated with adverse soil conditions of high alkali content suggesting these sites span a catena of soil chemistry and water balance. Either *Atriplex nuttallii* or *Sarcobatus vermiculatus* is always well represented. *Artemisia tridentata* and *Gutierrhiza sarothrae* are consistently present but generally poorly represented. The forb component is negligible with no species even moderately constant.

**Other Studies:** For central MT Harvey (1982) has described (from one plot) a ATRNUT/Agropyron smithil c.t. on shale derived alluvium; site conditions are not those of a badland and high vegetative cover reflects the less adverse site conditions relative to ATRNUT/GRASSP. In the Pryor Mountains vicinity DeVelice and Lesica (1993) describe compositionally similar types, ARTTRI-ATRNUT and ATRNUT/ Monolepsis nuttalliana, that possibly because of livestock grazing have a very sparse grass cover; badland conditions also obtain at these sites with erosive bentonitic soils and conspicuous rill and gully erosion.

#### Atriplex nuttallii/Eriogonum pauciflorum c.t.

ATRNUT/ERIPAU; saltsage/few-flowered wild buckwheat; 4 plots)

**Environment:** This c.t. has been documented from only Rosebud County where it is a minor type restricted to benches or flats with heavy-textured, shrink-swell-cracked, poorly drained soils derived from shale (formation unidentified). With vegetation sparse the amount of exposed soil and gravel usually exceeds 90% and sheet and rill erosion is ubiquitous; though relief is slight these would be considered "badland" sites.

**Vegetation:** These site are depauperate in cover (combined cover usually less than 40%) and diversity (average 8 species per plot). The shrub layer dominant *Atriplex nuttallii* is well represented but seldom abundant. *Chrysothamnus nauseosus* is 100% constant, its cover not exceeding 10%. *Artemisia tridentata* dominated one stand on an area transitional to ARTTRI/AGRSPI, the most commonly noted bordering community. *Agropyron dasystachyum* and *Oryzopsis hymenoides* are grasses with the highest cover (not exceeding 5%) and constancy (>50%). *Eriogonum pauciflorum* is the dominant forb (cover to 30%) and often the only forb noted over broad expanses.

Other Studies: There are a number of community types recognized for MT with Atriplex nuttallii dominant/codominant but only ARTNUT/ Monolepsis nuttallii in the Pryor Mountains vicinity (DeVelice and Lesica 1993) and ATRNUT/ Oryzopsis hymenoides of southwestern MT (DeVelice 1992) occur in similar habitats, sedimentary (mostly shale) badlands with poorly-drained substrates. ATRNUT/ERIPAU sites occur in the same types of landscapes with ostensibly similar substrates (shales, bentonite) as the Artemisia longifolia-Eriogonum pauciflorum c.t. and share the same forb dominant. ATRNUT/ERIPAU may simply represent a local variation of types common to shale-derived badland environments throughout the Intermountain West (Bourgeron and Engelking 1991).

#### Ceratoides lanata/ Stipa comata c.t.

(CERLAN/STICOM; winterfat/needle-and-thread; 5 plots WHTF designation *Krascheninnikovia lanata/Stipa comata*)

**Environment:** This type is tentatively referred to as CERLAN/ *Stipa comata* c.t.; with the input of plots from the Big Dry R.A. and reanalysis it appears this is a type potentially dominated by *Agropyron spicatum*. We speculate *Stipa comata* is currently dominant due only to intensive cattle grazing and thus this type represents a seral stage of a putative CERLAN/ *Agropyron spicatum* plant association (it should be noted that there is no CERLAN/ Agropyron spicatum p.a. recognized in the western U.S.). CERLAN/STICOM is a minor c.t. scattered across the complete extent of study area, on the periphery of badlands or breaklands, usually on flats and footslopes of gentle terrain. CERLAN/AGRSPI frequently forms sharp ecotones with sites dominated by AGRSPI-Carex fillifolia or STICOM-CARFIL. Various investigators (Daubenmire 1970, Gates et al. 1956) have tried without success to establish what soil variables lead to the frequently noted sharp discontinuites between *Ceratoides*-dominated stands and adjacent vegetation; neither excessive CaCO<sub>3</sub> nor defieciency of N,P,K or S seem to controlling.

**Vegetation:** All but two of the sampled stands had been highly impacted by grazing; both *Ceratoides lanata* and *Agropyron spicatum* the potential dominants of shrub and herb layer, respectively are highly preferred browse/forage and have been severely impacted, leading to the increase of *S. comata Carex filifolia* and *Bouteloua gracilis*. Both stands lightly to ungrazed (far from water) had double to triple the cover of *C. lanata* and *A. spicatum* of grazed stands. *Stipa viridula* also had higher cover under reduced grazing. *Artemisia frigida* and *A. tridentata* were the only shrubs exceeding 50% constancy and only *A. frigida* was well represented; apparently *A. frigida* does not expand on CERLAN/AGRSPI as it does on other rangeland sites. Forbs are a minor component, only *Sphaeralcea coccinia* and *Plantago patagonica* (a weed) were at least 50% constant. This type is notable for not supporting *Selaginella densa* as a major increaser species.

**Other Studies:** The only other documented example of *Ceratoides* (*Eurotia*) *lanata /Stipa comata* c.t., that of Washington State, is noted to be quite rare (S1); its composition and site characteristics are not currently published (Bourgeron and Engelking 1991).

#### Juniperus horizontalis/Agropyron dasystachyum c.t.

(JUNHOR/AGRDAS; creeping juniper/thick-spike wheatgrass; 7 plots WHTF designation *Juniperus horizontalis/Elymus lanceolatus*)

**Environment:** JUNHOR/AGRDAS was found only as small patches (<< 1 acre) in erosion prone landscapes associated with or in vicinity of badlands in Phillips and Valley Counties; it can be expected in other localities where similar substrates exist. Usually patches of JUNHOR/AGRDAS are embedded in a matrix of eroded bare spots, JUNHOR/ANDSCO, JUNHOR/JUNBAL and grades to AGRSMI-STIVIR and STICUR-STIVIR.

JUNHOR/AGRDAS sites are generally characterized by weathered shales, including bentonite deposits and alluvium, and bedded shales with a thin layer of glacial drift. All sites evidenced some degree of sheet erosion, most were both rilled and gullied and still others are sinks for erosional processes. Soils were high in clays and two sites had weak mottling and gleying. Several sites had soils with a textural fraction dominated by shales decomposed to sand-sized or larger particles and supported *Calamovilfa longifolia* and *Calamagrostis montanensis*, grasses associated with sandy soils. Positions ranged alluvial terraces to all variety of slope features from toeslopes to slope shoulders, but never on warmer aspects. Ground cover characteristics varied widely, the most typical situation being a high percentage (>60%) of exposed soil (due to erosion) or low gradient slopes and flats having a nearly continuous litter layer. Only one stand had abundant *Selaginella densa* so typical of adjacent upland sites.

**Vegetation:** *Juniperus horizontalis* well represented is diagnostic; it's cover ranged from 10 to 60%, averaging 42%. It apparently spreads relatively rapidly, colonizing areas recently denuded. Shrubs associated with moister environments, *Symphoricarpos occidentalis*, *Rosa* spp., and *Artemisia cana* are more than 50% constant, but their coverages do not exceed 5%. Grass cover ranges widely depending in part on degree of active erosion and probably length of time since colonization. *Agropyron dasystachyum* is 100% constant, usually dominant and diagnostic at the well represented level, but in some areas shares dominance with *A. smithii*. On moister positions *Stipa curtiseta* and *Stipa viridula* are present with as much as 30% canopy cover. *Carex pensylvanica* (*C. inops*) is an important graminoid on more than half the plots. *Vicia americana* is the only forb exceeding 50% constancy. The presence of *Eriogonum pauciflorum* and *Artemisia longifolia* reflect the badland setting of these sites.

**Other Studies:** Jorgensen (1979) describes for the Yellow Water Triangle a very similar type, JUNHOR/Carex parryana (lacking only A. dasystachyum), developed on "sandy" shales; he hypothesizes JUNHOR/CARPAR to be seral to ARTTRI/AGRDAS. In central and southcentral Montana Miller (1978) sampled several plots that would key to JUNHOR/AGRDAS (by virtue of A. smithii cover). In southeastern Montana a number of plots within what Hansen and Hoffman (1988) consider a topoedaphic climax, JUNHOR/ Carex heliophila h.t. (syn. C. pensylvanica), appear closely similar in vegetation to JUNHOR/AGRDAS but occur only on sandy substrates This community type or homologues confined to sandy soils extend into western North Dakota (Redmann 1975, Hansen et al. 1984, Hanson and Whitman 1938).

## Juniperus horizontalis/Andropogon scoparius c.t.

(JUNHOR/ANDSCO; creeping juniper/little bluestem; 11 plots; WHTF designation JUNHOR/ Schizachyrium scoparium)

**Environment:** This newly defined type occurs as small patches (<1 acre), often part of a *J. horizontalis*-dominated complex, in the midst of badlands or breaklands or on adjacent gently rolling terrain. It develops mostly on benches (alluvial terraces) but positions included toe or footslopes and backslopes (to the crest). Substrates are sedimentary, mostly shales decomposed to gravelly sands (fines outwashed?) or glacial drift. These sites are highly erosive and and where *J. horizontalis* cover is low there is extensive sheet, rill, and gully eroion. Even where sites are stabilized by appreciable vegetation (>70%) erosion encroaches from all sides due to alluvial processes from below and above and wind generated blowouts from above. JUNHOR/ANDSCO is found in a complex with JUNHOR/JUNBAL (moister positions), JUNHOR/AGRDAS (unknown relationship), JUNHOR/CALLON (coarser-textured substrates) and grades to ARTTRI/AGRSPI, AGRSPI-BOUGRA, AGRSPI-CARFIL and STICOM-CARFIL on the uplands.

**Vegetation:** Juniperus horizontalis dominates the shrub layer, occurring in widely varying (20-80+%) coverages. Rosa arkansana is the only other shrub with constancy exceeding 50%, but occurs with low cover values. Scattered Symphoricarpos occidentalis, Shepherdia argentea and Arctostaphylos uva-ursi occur on sites presumed to be more moist. Well represented (common where grazing impact significant) Andropogon scoparius and/or Agropyron spicatum are diagnostic for this type. The preliminary classification recognized two types (JUNJOR/ANDSCO & JUNHOR/AGRSPI) but subsequent analysis could find no difference in their site parameters and continuous variation in cover of diagnostic species; these observations resulted in a merging of the types. Both grasses are highly palatable and relative grazing impacts cannot be addressed without exclosure studies. Graminoids with high constancy include Carex filifolia and Koeleria cristata. Calamovilfa longifolia was well represented on sites well drained and sandy. Though poorly represented, the mere presence of Juncus balticus and Agropyron dasystachyum denotes transitions to moister sites. The forb component has slightly greater coverages than in other non-wetland shrub types; Thermopsis rhombifolia was well represented in about 30% of the plots.

Other Studies: The study area examples of JUNHOR/ANDSCO are compositionally intermediate between JUNHOR/Carex heliophila (syn. C. pensylvanica, C. inops) h.t. of southeastern MT and contiguous portions of North and South Dakota (Hansen and Hoffman 1988) and JUNHOR/ANDSCO described for western North Dakota (Hansen et al. 1984). Both JUNHOR/CARHEL and JUNHOR/ANDSCO (ND) occur as a topoedaphic climaxes on steep, north-facing slopes with sandy substrates. In Custer County Culwell and Scow (1982) describe a JUNHOR/sidehill type (A. scoparius dominant) for sandy, north-facing slopes; this type is a homologue of both JUNHOR/ANDSCO and JUNHOR/CARFIL. Jorgensen (1979) describes a JUNHOR/ Carex parryana (C. pensylvanica?) h.t. for central Montana that occurs on sites very similar (sandy shales) to those of study area and which he considers successional to ARTTRI/AGRSPI. Miller's (1978) extensive J. horizontalis study included plots identified as JUNHOR/AGRSPI and JUNHOR/ANDSCO-FESIDA that would be placed in our JUNHOR/ANDSCO c.t. J. horizontalis-dominated vegetation has been descibed for Alberta (Coupland 1961) but not south of MT.

#### Juniperus horizontalis/Calamovilfa longifolia c.t.

(JUNHOR/CALLON; creeping juniper/prairie sandreed; 4 plots)

**Environment:** JUNHOR/CALLON is a minor type associated with the badland topography northwest of Glasgow, MT and probably can be expected in similar highly erosive, shale-dominated environments. Whether found on butte tops or slopes, toeslopes or alluvial bottoms erosion was a dominant process (mostly sheet and rill) with up to 90% exposed substrate. Soils are single-grained and, even though derived from shales or siltstones, are dominated by sand and larger-sized particles. We posit that this type is a relatively early seral stage of other *J. horizontalis*-dominated (e.g. JUNHOR/ANDSCO) or possibly grassland types. It occurred both on wetland sites (gleyed and mottled soils) and well-drained sandy uplands with the only compositional differences between the two situations being cover of species represented.

**Vegetation:** *J. horizontalis* is well represented but coverages are not, on the average, so high as in other *J. horizontalis* -dominated types. *Calamagrostis montanensis* and *Calamovilfa longifolia* are well represented on all sites; *Andropogon scoparius* is also 100% constant but occurrs in only trace amounts. Forb composition is much like that of JUNHOR/JUNBAL, depauperte with *Thermopsis rhombifolia* and *Solidago nemoralis* 100% constant.

**Other Studies:** Miller (1978) named a JUNHOR/CALLON type but compositionally it bears little resemblance to the type named identically and described herein, though Miller does characterize the sites as having much bare ground and evidence of erosion. No other examples of this type have been descibed.

Juniperus horizontalis/Juncus balticus c.t. (JUNHOR/JUNBAL; creeping juniper/Baltic rush; 4 plots)

**Environment:** JUNHOR/JUNBAL is a minor c.t. described only from the badlands northwest of Glasgow, MT. This type occurs as small patches on narrow alluvial benches intercalated between drainages and upslope postions; it extends to toeslope postions of north-facing slopes. Substrates are alluvium (stream and slope-wash depostitions) derived from shales, including bentonite. All plots had weakly mottled and gleyed soil (at 8 in depth) which points to their quite probably being wetland sites. These sites are subject to erosion through overland flow but due to cladding effect of high *J. horizontalis* coverages the erosion amounts are minimal, less than 5% of the surface area. Adjacent sites are often part of a *J. horizontalis*-dominated complex, including JUNHOR/ANDSCO and JUNHOR/CALLON.

**Vegetation:** *J. horizontalis* coverage generally exceeds 30% and was noted to completely blanket some sites (unsampled). *Rosa* spp. are 100% constant. *Juncus balticus* is at least well represented, often abundant. *Calamagrostis montanensis*, *Calamovilfa longifolia* and *Andropogon scoparius* were 100% constant, occasionally more abundant than *J. balticus*. The combined cover of graminoids appears to be inversely related to *J. horizontalis* cover. *Thermopsis rhombifolia*, *Achillea millifolium* and *Antennaria neglecta* were characteristic of a depauperate forb layer; only *T. rhombifolia* was well represented.

**Other Studies:** JUNHOR/JUNBAL has not been previously described, nor has *J. horizontalis* been previously identified as a wetland dominant. *Juncus balticus* is associated with anthropogenically modified wetlands (Hansen et al. 1994) but not even trace amounts of possibly displaced previous true wetland species (graminoids) could be found on sampled sites.

#### Rhus trilobata/Agropyron spicatum h.t.

(RHUTRI/AGRSPI; skunk-bush sumac/bluebunch wheatgrass; 3 plots; WHTF designation *Rhus aromaticalPseudoroegneria spicata*)

**Environment:** RHUTRI/AGRSPI is a minor type in the study area, occurring as small patches on gently to steeply sloping breaklands, mostly on slope shoulders but capable of extending to footslopes. Exposures are generally the warmest in a local mosaic. Substrates included calcareous sandstones and shales and a lone instance on an extrusive volcanic; all soils were shallow and coarse-textured. Surface coverage varied between high coverages of soil/gravel (>50 %) and swards of *Selaginellla densa* (on overgrazed land). Adjacent c.ts. are often of the *Artemisia tridentata* series or *Stipa commata-Boutloua gracilis* (on uplands).

**Vegetation:** Well represented *Rhus aromatica* is diagnostic for the type; coverage ranges to 20%. Other shrubs include *Artemisia frigida*, *Gutierrezia sarothrae* and *Yucca glauca*. *Agropyron spicatum* is well represented, but due to site severity (and grazing), does not exist in high coverages. *Stipa comata* and *Muhlenbergia cuspidata* have 100% constancy and *S. comata* tends to have relatively higher coverage on accessible sites with grazing pressure. *Phlox hoodii* and *Liatris punctata* were present in all plots.

**Other studies:** Brown (1971) first described this c.t. for slope shoulders in southeastern MT badlands (porcellanite substrates). Hansen and Hoffman (1988) described virtually the same type over a greater extent in southeastern MT. Mueggler and Stewart (1980) extended the known occurrences to breaklands of the Missouri River's major tributaries, especially in the vicinity of the Yellowstone River drainage; though floristic composition differs slightly their type is essentially the same in landscape position and environmental variables as described herein.

#### Sarcobatus vermiculatus/Agropyron smithii c.t.

SARVER/AGRSMI; black greasewood/western wheatgrass; 3 plots; WHTF designation SARVER/*Pascopyrum smithii*)

**Environment:** Based on our small sample size SARVER/AGRSMI would appear to be a minor c.t., but Hansen et al. (1991), having extensively sampled characteristic habitats of this c.t., state it to be a major type of central and eastern MT. Our sampled stands were associated with older alluvial terrace deposits derived from shale (or at

least fine-grained sedimentary material). Sites were in a matrix of badland washes and no doubt received considerable input from overland flow. We speculate for at least for a portion of the year soils, due to the water perching potential of the heavy-textured soils, are saturated at a depth tapped by *S. vermiculatus*. None of our sites possessed hydric soils and hydrologic regime necessary to confirm a jurisdictional wetland, as found for a portion of this c.t. by Hansen et al. (1995).

**Vegetation:** As noted elsewhere (Mueggler and Stewart 1980) this type has a shrubland aspect, despite *S. vermiculatus* cover often not exceeding 10%, due to the robust stature of *S. vermiculatus* compared to that of the herbaceous layer. As noted by Branson et al. (1970), Johnson and Nichols (1982) and Brown (1971) *S. vermiculatus* has high alkali (especially sodium) tolerance, but other factors must be invoked to explain its floodplain presence. Other shrubs present include Artemisia frigida, *A. cana* and *A. tridentata* (occasionally noted to be well represented). *Agropyron smithii* dominated the herbaceous layer despite being heavily grazed; no other herbs were consistently present.

**Other Studies:** In Montana Mackie (1970) first described this c.t. (as SARVER/ *Agrpyron* spp. **h.t.**) for the Missouri River Breaks. Mueggler and Stewart (1980) noted its presence on floodplains of arid portions of western MT and playas and lakeshores of north-central MT. Hansen et al. (1995) are the source of the most encompassing vegetation description. Jorgensen's (1978) SARVER/*Agropyron dasystachyum* h.t., described from the Yellow Water Triangle, is an ecological analogue both in flora and environmental variables. Branson et al. (1970) describe how communities very similar to this c.t. relate to several Valley County badland soil catenas and driving variables of vegetation composition.

#### Sarcobatus vermiculatus-Atriplex nuttallii c.t.

(SARVER-ATRNUT; black greasewood-Gardner's saltsage; 10 plots; WHTF designation SARVER- *Atriplex gardneri*)

**Environment:** This is a common type restricted to "badlands" characterized by acid shale, bentonite or some other highly erodable heavy-textured substrate. Rill, gully and sheet erosion is natural to and omnipresent on these moderately to steeply sloping sites. The strength of substrate as controlling factor is reflected in fact that SARVER-ATRNUT occurs on steep slopes of all aspects. The principal factors controlling plant distribution are low infiltration rates, low available water holding capacity and high total soluble cations (alkaline) and sodium (saline) Branson et al. (1970). All stands had at least 80% exposed soil and gravels; only trace amounts of rock were exposed. With few exceptions litter cover is less than 5%. Adjacent c.ts. on non-badlands substrates were usually *Stipa comata-Bouteloua gracilis*, STICOM-*Carex filifolia* and *Artemisia tridentata*-dominated community types or SARVER/Agropyron smithii on water receiving positions.

**Vegetation:** Shrubs are the dominant lifeform on these sites but their combined cover seldom exceeds 40%. Well represented *Sarcobatus vermiculatus* or *Atriplex nuttallii* are diagnostic for the c.t. but on especially eroded or otherwise inimical substrates (small patches) they may be poorly represented. *Atriplex confertifolia* is consistently present in the easternmost examples of this type whereas *A. nuttallii* is more likely to occurr in the northcentral counties. *Artemisia tridentata* is present in increasing amounts where SARVER-ATRNUT grades to ARTTRI/AGRSMI. Graminoids are notably low in cover, not exceeding 5% in the aggregate. Forb coverage is highly variable in cover and composition. The annual, *Atriplex dioica*, was abundant on several sites; only *Iva axillaris*, *Suaeda moquinii* and *Machaeranthera canescens* had constancies approaching 50%.

**Other Studies:** DeVelice and Lesica (1993) have described a SARVER/Atriplex nuttallii c.t. from bentonite substrates in the Pryor Mtns. of MT; in the same vicinity SARVER-ATRNUT is subsumed within the saltbush desert shrubland of Knight et al. (1987). Brown (1971) also described a SARVER type and documented associated soil properties; his SARVER type had notably higher sodium concentrations and pH values than the next most alkaline c.t., Atriplex confertifolia-Artemisia tridentata. The SARVER c.t. described here includes all of the above-cited types. This c.t. extends into Wyoming (Bourgeron and Engelking 1992) on substrates comparable to those of MT. Branson et al. (1970) describe the assciation between chemical/physical properties of Bearpaw shales of northeastern MT and alluvium derived therefrom to plant communities, including several dominated by A.

*nuttallii* and *S. vermiculatus* and a combination of the two species. Other *S. vermiculatus*-dominated types with an appreciable grass component probably differ in site factors.

#### Shepherdia argentea c.t.

(SHEARG; thorny buffaloberry; 3 plots)

**Environment:** SHEARG is a minor study area c.t., documented only from Valley and Phillips Counties where it occurs as small stands (mostly < 1/5 acre) on the most mesic positions in a rolling uplands or badlands landscape mosaic. (In our sampling scheme we have not found SHEARG to be associated with alluvial bottoms, with the exception of drainage headlands; this constrasts with observations of Hansen et al. [1991] who targeted riparian areas specifically and found the type along the Sun, Milk, Missouri and Yellowstone Rivers.) Stands are not only small, but show much internal heterogeniety in both microtopography and vegetation, with clumpy distribution of S. argentea (and other shrubs). The smallest stands, not much more than individual clumps or stringers of S. argentea, occur on lee-slope positions, frequently on northwest- to east-facing slope brows and in swales; these are moisture-collecting positions, either as snow or runoff.

Soils were developed from glacial drift or shales. One sampled stand at drainage headlands qualified as jurisdictional wetland with gleying and mottling within 6 in of surface. Being productive sites, the ground cover is primarily litter, though much bare soil is exposed where animal trails are concentrated.

Due to position and structure these sites are heavily used by wild ungulates for cover; domestic stock also use these sites preferentially. Either/both of these groups are probably implicated in the introduction of *Euphorbia* esula (leafy spurge) to these moist habitats that are so favorable to its propagation.

**Vegetation:** Shepherdia argentea, mostly 4 to 7 ft tall, is usually abundant, forming a patchily distributed dominant shrub stratum, though Symphoricarpos occidentalis or Juniperus horizontalis may have greater cover, but in a low shrub layer. Ribes setosum is consistently present as a mid to tall shrub. The forb layers form two sampled stands were very different, apparently reflecting differences in soil moisture. The wet-site stand herb layer was dominated by Poa palustris whereas the drier stands were dominated by Agropyron smithii.

**Other Studies:** For Montana, SHEARG was first described in the southeast by Hansen and Hoffman (1988) and subsequently documented to range from southwestern, through central, to eastern sections by Hansen et al. (1995). Other northern Great Plains occurrences are described from North Dakota (Nelson 1961 and Boldt et al. 1978) and cited from South Dakota (Faber-Langendoen 1993).

#### GRASS- AND FORB-DOMINATED PLANT ASSOCIATIONS/COMMUNITY TYPES

#### Agropyron smithii-Bouteloua gracilis c.t.

(AGRSMI-BOUGRA; western wheatgrass-blue gramma; 24 plots WHTF designation *Pascopyrum smithii*-BOUGRA)

**Environment:** The largest expanses of AGRSMI-BOUGRA, an important grassland type, occur on alluvial flats and basins and upper level stream terraces where fines (silts and clays) have accumulated in low energy environments. It is also found extensively on rolling upland sites where glacial drift is shallow or nonexistent and the underlying fine-textured soils are derived from shales and siltstone or even sandstone (with higher coverages of *Stipa comata* and *Calamovilfa longifolia*). Small stands are associated with swales or other collecting positions (toeslopes). Soils range from sandy loams to clay loams. Ground cover is characterized by high coverages (>60%) of either *Selaginella densa* (presumed result of overgrazing) or exposed soil; litter cover seldom exceeds 10%. AGRSMI-BOUGRA often grades to STICOM-BOUGRA and STICOM-CARFIL h.ts., which are found on better drained positions with coaser-textured soils, or the STICOM-BOUGRA c.t. which represents a grazing impacted area.

**Vegetation:** The accessibility of this type and palatability of the putative dominant (and diagnostic) species, *Agropyron smithii* and *A. dasystachyum*, has resulted in marked alteration of composition. Severe overgrazing alters this c.t. to STICOM-BOUGRA, BOUGRA (appearance of short-grass prairie) or weed-dominated pastures; we have documented fenceline contrasts with 90% *A. smithii* on the protected side and virtual extirpation on impacted side. The relative proportions *A. smithii/dasystachyum* versus *B. gracilis* and *Carex filifolia* appear inversely related to grazing intensity; a similar response has been documented for this type on Canadian prairies (Coupland et al 1960). *Koeléria cristata* and *Carex filifolia* exhibit high constancy and coverages occasionally exceeding 20%. *Muhlenbergia cuspidata* and *Andropogon scoparius* colonize areas where disturbance has resulted in localized erosion. We speculate that the high coverages of *Stipa comata* found in some stands (and not on sandsstone derived soils) result from grazing-reduced competition from rhizomatous grasses. Hansen and Hoffman (1988) note *S. comata* cover does not exceed 5% in undisturbed stands of *Agropyron smithii-Carex filifolia*, a very similar type of southeastern Montana and southwestern North Dakota.

Artemisia frigida is the only shrub of note (nearly 100% constant) but its cover seldom exceeds 5%, even with overgrazing. Aggregate cover of forbs does not exceed trace amounts except under intensive grazing where increaser species (*Plantago patagonica*, *Opuntia polyacantha*, *Phlox hoodii*, etc.) proliferate; *P. hoodii*, *O. polyacantha* and *Sphaeralcea coccinea* are the only forbs with greater than 50% constancy.

Other Studies: Under various designations, this c.t. is well documented to occur on gentle terrain with fine-textured soils (having a greater than normal proportion of clay/silt); from the brown soil zone of southern Canada as *Bouteloua-Agropyron* faciation (Coupland 1961), western ND as *Agropyron smithii-Bouteloua gracilis-Carex* spp. (Hanson and Whitman 1938, Quinnald and Crosby 1958) and AGRSMI-CARFIL (Hansen et al. 1984 and Hansen and Hoffman 1988), southeastern MT as AGRSMI-CARFIL (Hansen and Hoffman 1988), central and eastern MT as BOUGRA-AGRSMI (Anderson 1973), Custer County as AGRSMI-BOUGRA-Buchloe dactyloides (Culwell and Scow 1982) and Bull Mountains as BOUGRA-AGRSMI (Culwell 1977c). We have conservatively employed the designation AGRSMI-BOUGRA c.t. because it reflects the indicator significance of *A. smithii* regarding soil conditions and the generally greater constancy and coverage of *B. gracilis* (versus *C. filifolia*).

#### Agropyron smithii-Stipa viridula c.t.

(AGRSMI-STIVIR; western wheatgrass-green needlegrass; 23 plots WHTF designation *Pascopyrum smithii-Nasella viridula*)

**Environment:** AGRSMI-STIVIR was probably a major community type throughout the study area (Coupland 1961) but has been put to the plow because of its favoribility for agriculture. Its occurrence is also much reduced and degraded because the gentle terrain affords ready access to cattle. AGRSMI-STIVIR is found on a broad variety of topographic positions, from rolling upland of low to moderate relief to swales of breaklands and moderate to steep, cooler aspects of coulees. It occurs on protected exposures, moister or water receiving

positions in the landscape that possess fine-textured soils, though frequently a thin mantle of glacial drift may cover the sedimentary substrates which provide the majority of rooting medium. This type often grades to STICOM-BOUGRA, STICOM-CARFIL or AGRSMI-BOUGRA on adjacent uplands and *Artemisia cana* -dominated or *Symphoricarpos occidentalis* communities on lowland positions. Intensive grazing of AGRSMI-STIVIR has resulted in much conversion to STICOM-BOUGRA and ASRSMI-BOUGRA c.ts. or weed-dominated c.ts. with a high percentage of introduced annual grasses (*Bromus japonicus*, B. tectorum, *Festuca octoflora*, etc.).

**Vegetation:** Agropyron smithii and/or A. dasystachyum and Stipa viridula well represented are diagnostic for this type, however fenceline contrasts indicate that A. smithii can be reduced to trace amounts and even extirpated by intensive grazing. On lightly grazed rolling terrain A. smithii cover approached 95%. Ascertain intensity of grazing before relaxing cover criteria for type identification. Stipa viridula was chosen as an indicator of "favorable habitats" being associated with "heavy soil, by protection from wind, or by extra moisture from runoff.", Coupland 1961. Bouteloua gracilis and Carex filifolia (S. comata on sites with better drainage) are capable of dramatic increase with grazing and prolonged drought (Coupland 1961). Various mixes of Carex spp. (C. stenophylla, C. fillifolia, C. heliophyla) and Koeleria cristata are highly constant and range widely in cover values.

Selaginella densa cover is high (> 70%) on severely overgrazed lands; other overgrazed sites support only trace amounts. High constancy forbs include *Phlox hoodii*, *Sphaeralcea coccinea*, *Antennaria parviflora* and *Psoralea argophylla*. *Artemisia frigida* is the only shrub with greater than 50% constancy; on overgrazed pastures its cover approaches 20%.

Other Studies: Moore and Culwell (1981) described a community type, identically named, from the Bull Mountains of Musselshell County, MT. Culwell and Scow (1982) sampled two c.ts. (AGRSMI-BOUGRA-BUCDAC and STICOM-AGRSMI) for Custer County that contained plots that would key to AGRSMI-STIVIR. Hansen and Hoffman (1988) describe a AGRSMI-CARFIL h.t. for southeastern MT and western North and South Dakota containing stands with *S. viridula* prominent; these stands are comparable to AGRSMI-STIVR in site variables and composition. In general the *Agropyron smithii* -dominated c.ts. described for western North Dakota (Hanson and Whitman 1938, Hansen et al. 1984, Quinnald and Crosby 1958) reflect more xeric conditions than those of AGRSMI-STIVIR. However, data presented by Quinnald and Crosby (1958) for ungrazed North Dakota mesas shows *S. viridula* to be an important component of *A. smithii*- and *A. dasytachyum* -dominated stands and Whitman (1976) documents a AGRSMI-STIVIR-BOUGRA c.t from southwestern ND occurring on silty clays, clay loams, and clays. For the prairies of Alberta the community closest in composition is *Agropyron* (mostly *dasystachyum*)-Koeleria (cristata) faciation (Coupland 1961) and is described as occurring only on rolling terrain with lacustrine clay soils.

#### Agropyron spicatum-Bouteloua gracilis c.t.

(AGRSPI-BOUGRA; bluebunch wheatgrass-blue grama; 4 plots; WHTF designation *Pseudoroegneria spicata*-BOUGRA)

**Environment:** AGRSPI-BOUGRA is a common type in western MT, east of the Continental Divide, declining in prominence to the east. Within the study area it most common in foothills to Little Rockies and Bears Paw Mountains, generally associated with warmer exposures and well-drained soils. and becomes very sporadic in the easternmost counties (where associated with protected positions). It is Study area soils were derived only from sandstone (calcareous and non-calcareous) or glacial drift but this type was noted to develop on other substrates. It was most often observed to grade to STICOM-BOUGRA and AGRSPI-POASEC on drier exposures and ARTTRI/AGRSPI, AGRSMI-BOUGRA on gently rolling topography. Several fenceline contrasts reveal that *Agropyron spicatum* can be virtually extirpated by grazing. This type was sampled only on range minimally impacted by grazing. Given the accessibilty of this type and its vulnerbility to grazing, it is quite probable its potentially occupied acreage is much greater than that currently occupied.

**Vegetation:** Sites are dominated by *Agropyron spicatum* (20-70% cover); other highly constant graminoids include *Bouteloua gracilis*, *Stipa comata*, *Carex filifolia* and *Muhlenbergia cuspidata*. The first three named graminoids increase storngly with grazing. Combined cover shrub layer may exceed 5%, but individual species cover does not, with the exception of *Yucca glauca* (one site). *Artemisia frigida*, *Gutierrhizia sarothrae*, and *Yucca* 

*glauca* are the only high constancy (>75%) shrubs. Although forb diversity is relative high (> 15 species per plot), only *Phlox hoodii* and *Opuntia polyacantha* are highly constant.

**Other Studies:** Mueggler and Stewart (1980) have documented this as an important type for western Montana; it is very similar in composition and landscape position to AGRSPI-POASEC. In southeastern MT Hansen and Hoffman (1988) descibe two types, AGRSPI-Carex filifolia and AGRSPI-Bouteloua curtipendula, similar to AGRSPI-BOUGRA, but both types lack the importance of *B. gracilis*. Ross et al. (1973) list several near pristine occurrences of AGRSPI-BOUGRA on the sedimentary plains of eastern MT. This type ranges south into Wyoming and Colorado as a very extensive cover type (Bourgeron et al. 1994).

#### Agropyron spicatum-Poa secunda h.t.

(AGRSPI-POASEC; bluebunch wheatgrass-Sandberg's bluegrass; 7 plots; WHTF designation *Pseudoroegneria spicata*-POASEC)

**Environment:** This bunchgrass-dominated type is common in western MT (Mueggler and Stewart 1980), progressively declining in importance to the east; it is sporadically distributed within the western portion (Blaine and Phillips Counties) of the study area, extends as far as Rosebud Co. and not documented from the counties bordering ND. It was found on glacial drift and various igneous materials weathered to loams and sandy loams. It is found on southerly aspects of higher terrain such as foothills of and within the Little Rockies and Bears Paw Mountains, as well as on cooler exposures within rolling uplands. Ground cover is highly variable with high coverages of *Selaginella densa* on overgrazed sites, high moss cover on sheltered sites and exposed soil and gravel exceeding 70% on others. In Little Rocky Mtns vicinity this type is noted to be a seral community on PINPON/AGRSPI following fire. AGRSPI-POASEC was noted to grade to PINPON/AGRSPI or FESIDA-dominated c.ts. on moister positions and to *Stipa comata-Bouteloua gracilis* of drier positions.

**Vegetation:** Agropyron spicatum well represented is diagnostic for the type but its coverages may range from trace to 80% plus. Because *A. spicatum* is highly preferred forage for cattle and AGRSPI-POASEC sites are quite accessible resulting in severe grazing impacts to this type. We lowered criteria (A. spicatum well represented, >5% canopy cover) for inclusion in this type where grazing intensive had been severe. Several fenceline contrasts suggested more than 80% reduction in current season *A. spicatum* cover; Mueggler and Stewart (1980) and Daubenmire (1970) document the longterm reduction in palatable forage (virtual extirpation of *A. spicatum*) due to excessive grazing. Bromus tectorum and B. japonicus are strong increasers with disturbance. Poa secunda and Koeleria cristata are 100% constant though their coverages don't exceed 20%. P. secunda need not be present for type identification; Mueggler and Stewart (1980) and this study treat AGRSPI-POASEC as a default type within the AGRSPI series. About half our stands have conspicuous amounts of Stipa comata, denoting the STICOM phase of Mueggler and Stewart (1980).

The subshrub *Artemisia frigida* is omnipresent but only exceeds trace amounts with intensive grazing. Contrary to the relatively high (30% average) cover cited by Mueggler & Stewart (1980), total forb cover in our samples generally does not exceed 10% except in the case of heavy grazing, where *Cerastium arvense*, *Phlox hoodii*, *Comandra umbellata* and other increaser forbs totaled as much as 40% cover. *Gaillardia aristata*, *Liatris punctata*, *Thermopsis rhombifolia* and *Chrysopsis villosa* are the only forbs with greater than 50% constancy.

**Other Studies:** The center of importance of AGRSPI-POASEC lies west of the Cascade Crest in Washington (Daubenmire 1970), Oregon (Johnson and Simon 1987, Hall 1973), and British Columbia (Samilkameen Valley, McLean 1970) however, the type extends with various floristic and environmental permutations to Idaho, Wyoming, Utah and Montana. AGRSPI-POASEC is scattered throughtout western MT (Mueggler and Stewart 1980) but decreases in importance to the east (northeast especially) where both diagnostic grasses approach their distributional limits (western ND and SD). Hansen and Hoffman (1988) describe a AGRSPI- *Carex filifolia* h.t. of very limited extent for southeastern MT which is virtually identical to the STICOM phase of AGRSPI-POASEC, especially when the ecological similarity (and taxonomic intergradation) of *P. secunda* and *P. canbyi* are considered.

Andropogon scoparius-Carex filifolia c.t.

# (ANDSCO-CARFIL; little bluestem (-) thread-leaved sedge; 9 plots; WHTF designation *Schizachyrium scoparium -Carex filifolia*)

**Environment:** This is a minor type that apparently increases in abundance in the study area from west to east; it was found mainly as small (<.1 acre) patches. Landscape position varied from slope brow to backslope to toeslope and alluvial flat. Slope exposure included steep southwest (slope shoulders) to protected northeast aspects (backslopes). Soils are mostly sandy loams and loamy sands derived from sandstone (calcareous and not), shale and alluvium (including fluvio-glacial material). Active rill and sheet erosion was nearly ubiquitous and some sites had developed gullies. Southerly aspects had been more eroded, with more exposed soils and gravel (to 80%), and considerably lower herbaceous cover.

**Vegetation:** Cover of the diagnostic (well represented) *Andropogon scoparius* varies widely; 10% on south-facing slopes to 80% on steep north-facing slopes, toeslopes and subirrigated terraces. *Carex filifolia* is 100% constant and second in coverage (average 28%) to *A. scoparius*. High constancy graminoids generally associated with sandy substrates include *Calamovilfa longifolia*, *Stipa comata*, and *Muhlenbergia cuspidata*; other psammophytes sporadically present include *Oryzopsis hymenoides*, *Aristida longiseta* and *Sporobolus cryptandrus*. Grazing pressure appreared less here than adjacent types, though occasionally more than 80% of *A. scoparius* annual production was consumed.

Only two shrubs, *Rhus trilobata* and *Yucca glauca*, exceed 50% constancy; their cover was always less than 5%. Combined forb cover seldom exceeds 1%; those exceeding 50% constancy are *Liatris puctata*, *Psoralea argophylla*, and *Lygodesmia juncea*. *Echinacea angustifolia* is present with greater frequency in this type than all other c.ts.

**Other studies:** For western North Dakota Hanson and Whitman (1938) descibe an *Andropogon scoparius* c.t. from steep north-facing slopes and areas of snow accumulation; they speculate *A. scoparius* is established during erosional episodes, acts to protect slopes from excessive erosion, and thus may be merely a seral stage (albeit longlived). None of following cited studies indicate a successional status for this, or closely allied types. Redmann (1975) also describes an *A. scoparius*-dominated type from western North Dakota occurring on steep south-facing slopes that receive above average moisture due to slope runoff and winter snowdrifts. Redmann (1975) also notes *A. scoparius*-dominated vegetation occurs on uplands having sandy soils, a common association noted for the whole of the tall-grass prairie.

Hansen and Hoffman (1988) report a habitat type with the name used here, ANDSCO-CARFIL, that is ubiquitous across southeastern MT, northwestern SD and southwestern ND and note its similarity to ANDSCO-CARFIL (Hansen et al. 1984) of west-central ND. These authors and Morris and Lovegrove (1975) treat ANDSCO-CARFIL as a topoedaphic climax associated with coarse-textured soils and slope shoulders and cooler, northwest-through northeast-facing slopes. These sites are both more mesic than other upland sites due to moisture redistribution and reduced insolation; their coarse texture favors deep percolation of moisture and the following rootsystems of *A. scoparius* and *Calamovilfa longifolia*. Dense layers of litter and duff (relatively undisturbed stands) and the importance of *Bouteloua curtipendula* are features distinguishing our type from the samples of Hansen and Hoffman (1988), Morris and Lovegrove (1975) from southeastern MT, Culwell and Scow (1982) from Custer Co. and Quinnild et al. (1978) from Richland Co.

#### Artemisia longifolia/Oryzopsis hymenoides c.t.

(ARTLON/ORYHYM; long-leaved sagewort/indian ricegrass; 4 plots)

**Environment:** This is a minor community type associated with highly distinctive sites, eroded acid-shale badlands. The sampled stands occurred on steep (>40%) slopes with south- to west-facing aspects, but the type was noted to occupy other less stressful, less eroded positions. These sites are so unfavorable for vegetation that plant cover seldom exceeds 20%, often not reaching even 10%. Given the active erosion and that litter production is virtually nill and it follows that exposed soil approaches 100% cover. Soils evidence no horizonation. Though derived from shales, these soils may be reacted to by vegetation as sands because though the fine, weathered fraction is clay-dominated more than 50% of the volumn is occupied by coarse shale shards. Without soil chemistry profiled, factors distinguishing this type from adjacent badland types, SARVER-ATRNUT most characteristically, cannot be identified.

**Vegetation:** Shrubs rarely establish on these sites. The taprooted forb *Artemisia longifolia* generally has the greatest cover but may share this status with *Eriogonum pauciflorum*, another forb characteristic of badlands. *Calamovilfa longifolia* and *Orzopsis hymenoides* (spp. generally associated with sandy soils) are also regularly present in trace amounts.

**Other Studies:** This type or a close homologue has been described from dark shales (Colorado, Clagget, and Bearpaw) in Musselshell and Petroleum Counties by Harvey (1982). Most notably Harvey characterized the soils as acid (pH <5) with low conductivity. He notes this to be a pioneer community of shale barrens but it may also be the long-term stable community due to the predominance of ongoing erosion.

#### Calamovilfa longifolia-Carex pensylvanica c.t.

(CALLON-CARPEN; prairie sandreed (-) long-stolon sedge; 9 plots)

**Environment:** CALLON-CARPEN is a minor c.t. occurring as small stands (<1/2 acre) restricted to upland sites with sandy soils (derived from sandstone) or on toeslopes and badland benches mantled with coarse-textured colluvium and slopewash derived from various sedimentary parent materials, including shales and bentonite. Generally narrow ecotones, indicating a steep soil (moisture?) gradient, exist between CALLON-CARPEN and adjacent c.ts. (most often STICOM-CARFIL, STICOM-BOUGRA, and ARTCAN/STICOM). Erosion (sheet, rill, and gully) is a consistent process on these sites, even on low gradient examples, but is more prominent on moderate to steep slopes. Given the ubiquity of erosion the percentage of exposed soil and gravel is generally high (>50%)

**Vegetation:** Cover of the diagnostic species, *Calamovilfa longifolia* and *Carex pensylvanica* (syn. *C. inops. C heliophila*), is highly variable. Graminoid cover generally is higher (to 80%) on the upland sites with sandy soil and gentle slopes, the same habitat described for this type in southeastern MT (Hansen and Hoffman 1988). *Andropogon scoparius* is sometimes well represented on collecting positions whereas *Calamagrostis montanensis* and *Stipa comata* are more apt to have high coverages (may even be dominant) on upland sites. Forb cover and richness is low; averaging only trace amounts and 10 species, respectively. *Thermopsis rhombifolia* is the only forb exceeding 50% constancy. *Rosa* spp. are consistenty present in the toe-slope and lower terrace stands whereas *Yucca glauca*, *Rhus aromatica* and *Artemisia* spp. occur in trace amounts on upland sites.

Other Studies: Hansen and Whitman (1938) describe a Calamovilfa longifolia type for sandy ridges and hills of western North Dakota. They speculate the CALLON type is seral to STICOM-BOUGRA-CAREX type, but in the described state it is very similar to our CALLON-CARPEN c.t. Whitman (1976) records a type for southwestern North Dakota, CALLON-STICOM-CAREX, that is similar to ours in composition and especially in range of togographic positions occupied. We have retained the name CALLON-CARPEN applied by Hansen and Hoffman (1988) to similar communities/habitats of southeastern MT, but used c.t. because some of our stands are clearly seral. In brown soil zone of Canada, Coupland (1961) recognizes a successional community of sandy sites dominated by a suite of tall "sand" grasses (Sporobolus cryptandrus, Oryzopsis hymenoides, Elymus canadensis, Calamagrostis montanensis) foremost of which is C. longifolia. Coupland (1961) envisions autogenic processes driving these sites to the Stipa (comata)-Bouteloua (gracilis)-Agropyron (dasystachyum) faciation (broad c.t.) but we agree with Hanson and Hoffman that this type is an edaphic climax. Under current conditions (grazing, climate) autogenic soil forming processes can't keep pace with the ubiquitous erosional processes.

#### Stipa comata-Bouteloua gracilis p.a.

(STICOM-BOUGRA; needle-and-thread (-) blue gramma; 13 plots)

**Environment:** STICOM-BOUGRA is a major plant association throughout the study area on upland sites with well drained substrates, mostly derived from materials associated with glacical processes. It was also found on residual sandstone. Soils are predominantly sandy loams, loamy sands and loams; numerous others (Daubenmire 1970, Coupland 1961, Dix 1960, Hansen et al. 1984) have noted the association between the high sand content of soils and the dominance of *Stipa comata*. STICOM-BOUGRA also occurs on gentle to steep slopes with west- through south-facing aspects. STICOM-BOUGRA also represents a seral condition (usually grazing, occasionally fire induced) for more productive sites that would support long-term stable dominance of *Agropyron smithii*, *A. dasystachyum* and/or *Agropyron spicatum*.

This c.t. is most frequently noted to grade to STICOM-Carex filifolia or Agropyron smithii -BOUGRA c.ts. (on moister sites or with finer textured soils).

**Vegetation:** The easy accessibility of this type has led to its being intensively grazed across its range. No exclosures were sampled so a description of unimpacted sites is not possible but based on several fenceline contrasts observed we hypothesize much compositional alteration has occurred. In the less impacted examples *S. comata* is a strongly dominant mid-grass (coverages to 70%) with *Bouteloua gracilis* usually dominating the short-grass layer. Intensively grazed sites may have only trace amounts of *S. comata* and *B. gracilis* whereas *Selaginella densa* has increased to create a green sward (early season aspect). *Koeleria cristata* may dominate portions of degraded sites. Other graminoids with greater than 50% constancy are *Poa secunda*, *Carex filifolia*, *C. stenophylla*, and *Agropyron smithii* (or its near ecological equivalent, *A. dasystachyum*). On especially sandy or eroded sites *Calamagrostis montanensis* and/or *Calamovilfa longifolia* may be well represented.

Artemisia frigida is a ubiquitous shrub in this type and increases notably with increased grazing. No forbs, with the exception of *S. densa*, occur with greater than 5% coverage; those with greater than 50% constancy include Sphaeralcea coccinea, Opuntia polyacantha, Phlox hoodii and Chrysopsis villosa. All the above forbs apparently increase with increased grazing. Observed, but unsampled, examples of badly degraded range of this community type were dominated by *Plantago patagonica*, *Hedeoma hispidula*, *Alyssum alyssoides* and various other "weedy" species.

Other studies: Our results are difficult to relate to published results because other studies have concentrated on sampling "relatively undisturbed" vegetation. For the northern prairies Coupland (1950) originally described a Stipa (comata & curtiseta?)-Bouteloua (gracilis) faciation (later proposed as STICOM-BOUGRA-CAREX spp. faciation [Coupland 1961]) and a Bouteloua-Stipa faciation (later changed [Coupland 1961] to Bouteloua-Stipa facies to denote a syntaxonomic unit of seral conditions). Both syntaxa are characteristic of undifferentiated glacial till deposits on rolling topography in the drier part of the brown soil zone (which would include eastern MT). Faciations are generally more inclusive than community or habitat types. Coupland provides insufficient quantitative criteria for discriminating between his two named syntaxa, but most of BOUGRA-STICOM and the drier portions of STICOM-BOUGRA correspond in composition to what we have described here as STICOM-BOUGRA c.t. Because we have not been able to separate grazing effects from vegetation composition conditioned by intrinsic site variables our type spans a greater environmental range.

For Montana, Mueggler and Stewart (1980) describe a STICOM-BOUGRA h.t. from intermountain valleys east of the Continental Divide; of the two phases AGRSMI is quite similar floristically and in topographic setting to the type described here. Given the palatability of *A. smithii* and *A. dasystachyum* we feel that where these species occur with 5% or greater coverage, especially in areas with appreciable grazing pressure, that they are indicative of different site conditions (more mesic) than would be indicated by their absence. Hansen et al. (1984) and Hansen and Hoffman (1988) have described for western North Dakota and southeastern Montana, respectively, a STICOM-Carex filifolia h.t., that in composition and environment, is very similar to STICOM-BOUGRA; we have discriminated these types based only on the abolute amounts of *C. filifolia* and *B. gracilis* present (which may be quite artificial given that both are increasers under grazing and respond dramatically to short-term climatic fluctuations). Coupland (1961) has remarked that *C. filifolia* increases in abundance southward from Canadian prairies, thus northeastern MT may be a transition zone with mixed representation of STICOM-BOUGRA and

STICOM-CARFIL as the dominant climatic climax types.

#### Stipa comata-Carex filifolia c.t.

(STICOM-CARFIL; needle-and-thread (-) thread-leaved sedge; 14 plots)

**Environment:** Within the study area the habitat of STICOM-CARFIL virtually matches that of STICOM-BOUGRA; rolling uplands of low to moderate relief, usually mantled with glacial drift or with soils derived from coarser textured sedimentaries. It also occurs on gentle to moderate slopes with southerly exposures. Soils are well drained, ranging from loams to loamy sands. Ground cover characteristics are related to history of use with intensively grazed stands having either a high cover of *Selaginella densa* or much (>60%) exposed soil and gravel (recent grazing intensive). Litter cover exceeded 40% only on those few stands judged lightly grazed STICOM-CARFIL grades to STICOM-BOUGRA (site differences unknown) and AGRSMI-BOUGRA on finer textured substrates or collecting positions.

**Vegetation:** Stipa comata and Carex filifolia well represented are diagnostic for this type, but on heavily grazed areas *S. comata* coverage may be less than 5%. The only notable compositional difference in graminoids between STICOM-CARFIL and STICOM-BOUGRA is the relative amount of *B. gracilis* and *C. filifolia*. Reasoning that because *B. gracilis* increases more strongly with (over)grazing than does *C. filifolia* we would recognize a significant coverage of *C. filifolia* a better register of site differences and hence gave STICOM-CARFIL priority in the key. Graminoids with constancy greater than 70% are Koeleria cristata, *B. gracilis*, Poa secunda, and Agropyron smithii/dasystachyum. Stands or microsites with sandier soils (derived from sandstone) or actively being eroded support Muhlenbergia cuspidata, Sporobolus cryptandrus and Andropogon scoparius. The low coverages (< 5%) of A. smithii/dasystachyum in study area examples of STICOM-CARFIL relative to those reported for a c.t. of same name in southeastern Montana (Hansen and Hoffman 1988) reflect our interpretation of the significance of these species' presence as indicators of more mesic conditions (different plant associations); their absence or highly reduced cover is potentially indicative of overgrazing.

Artemisia frigida is present and generally well represented in more than 90% of the plots; Gutierrhizia sarothrae and Ceratoides lanata are the only other shrub with more than 50% constancy. If these sites have been intensively sheep-grazed then C. lanata coverages, which are currently 5% or less, may be much reduced from potential (and indicative of CERLAN/STICOM c.t.). Aggregate forb cover (excepting Selaginella densa) seldom exceeds 5%; those with 50% or greater constancy are Phlox hoodii, Antennaria parvifolia, Gaura coccinia, Sphaeralcea coccinea, Chrysopsis villosa and Liatris punctata. Stand to stand cover of viability of Selaginella densa (0 to 90%) is notable. If S. densa is the increaser it is reputed to be, then 70% of the plots have been heavily impacted, at least in the past. Some currently intensively grazed pastures were noted to have no S. densa but a prolific weed population.

Other Studies: This c.t. was first described by Hanson and Whitman (1938) under the name *Bouteloua-Stipa-Carex*. STICOM-CARFIL c.t. has been further documented (as h.t. of same name) from near pristine and lightly impacted sites in western North Dakota (Hansen et al. 1984) and southeastern Montana (Hansen and Hoffman 1988); these examples of the type have slight vegetation differences as noted above (vegetation section). The *Agropyron smithii* phase of STICOM-BOUGRA described by Mueggler and Stewart (1980) for western MT is very similar in habitat to our STICOM-CARFIL c.t. and has only minor floristic and vegetation differences (higher *B. gracilis* and *A. smithii* cover). The *Stipa-Bouteloua* (*Carex* spp. ?) faciation described for brown soils of southern Canadian prairies (Coupland 1961) is very similar to STICOM-CARFIL, occurring in more xeric positions than the faciation that dominates most of the landscape, *Stipa-Agropyron* (*dasystachyum*). Coupland (1961) describes how the relative proportions of *A. dasystachyum* and *B. gracilis* shift with extended periods of drought and above average moisture; cover changes are sufficient to shift stands between c.ts. (faciations).

#### Stipa curtiseta-Stipa viridula p.a.

(STICUR-STIVIR; porcupine needlegrass-green needlegrass; 9 stands)

**Environment:** This c.t. has not previously been described from Montana: it was sampled only in the northern portion of Phillips and Valley Counties and is subsumed within what Coupland (1950) termed the *Stipa* (*curtiseta*)-Agropyron (*dasystachyum*) Faciation. We speculate that STICUR-STIVIR possibly constituted a significant fraction of the landscape put to the plow in this vicinity. Remnants of this c.t. are found on sheltered (e.g. north-and east-facing draw slopes, swales) and collecting positions (toeslopes and swales and lee slopes of ridges). Most of the stands were developed on glacial drift over sedimentary substrates (mostly shales). Substrate surfaces were highly variable from 80% cover of litter to 80% cover of *Selaginella densa*, mosses and lichens; in general exposed soil does not exceed 40%.

The sampled expressions of STICUR-STIVIR were mostly beyond the distribution limits of *Festuca scabrella*, *F. idahoensis* and *Agropyron spicatum*, or at least where these species constitute community dominants. STICUR-STIVIR most often grades to STICOM-CARFIL and STICOM-BOUGRA on uplands and adjacent drier exposures.

**Vegetation:** Artemisia frigida and Ceratoides lanata are the only shrubs with 50% or greater constancy, their cover not exceeding 5%. Stipa curtiseta or S. viridula, considered singly or combined having at least 5% cover, are considered diagnostic for the type. In several stands Agropyron dasystachyum was the dominant grass creating an aspect virtually identical to the condition described for relatively undisturbed stands of STIPA-AGROPYRON faciation (Coupland 1961) on Canadian mixed-grass prairies. The relatively large stature of the above grasses when contrasted with the low coverage of short grasses gives ungrazed examples of this type a more luxuriant aspect than those types of the surrounding grassland matrix. Several stands with an abundance of Calamovilfa longifolia and/or Stipa comata had loamy-sand soils. Appreciable coverages of Muhlenbergia cuspidata appear to be associated with sandy or eroded substrates. Andropogon scoparius was present in about 50% of the plots but coverages were less than 5%. Psoralea argophylla was the only forb with greater than 50% constancy. With the exception of Selaginella densa, found in high coverages on grazing impacted sites, forb cover seldom exceeds 5%, even in the aggregate.

**Other studies:** This type has not been previously described from Montana or the western US, quite possibly because *S. curtiseta* has not been long recognized at the species level (Barkworth 1978). *S. curtiseta* has previously been recognized as *S. spartea* var. *curtiseta* in the northwestern U.S. and Canada; often researchers did not track it as a separate taxon at the variety level. Coupland's monographs (1950, 196?) regarding northern Great Plains grassland classification describe a *Stipa-Agropyron* faciation which subsumes our STICUR-STIVIR c.t. Coupland notes that *Stipa comata* and *S. curtiseta* are coextensive dominants throughtout the Canadian Prairie Provinces on brown and dark brown soil zones but that *S. curtiseta* is confined, at least as a dominant, to north of 49 N. Where coextensive, *S. curtiseta* occurrs in much higher coverages on north slopes and protected positions whereas *S. comata* is more abundant on south-facing exposures. For western North Dakota Redmann (1975) has reported a mesic *S. spartea* v. *curtiseta* c.t. occupying north-facing slopes, well below the slope break; it is also floristically similar to STICUR-STIVIR. At this time it would appear that the Montana occurrences define the southern limit of this type and that it (or a floristically quite similar type) extends as far north as the boreal forest zone where, owing to factor compensation, it occurs on better drained, south-facing slopes (Redmann and Schwarz 1986).

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Appendix A. List of plant species occurring in sample plots by six character US Forest Service R-1 (Northern Region) acronym, latin binomial and common name; arranged alphabetically within lifeform (457 total taxa).

# Specioeds) 8 TREES

	ייים משמערות מייים מייים ייי	י למטר	
BETPAP	Betula	papyrifera	ш
FRAPEN	Fraxinus	pennsylvanica	
JUNSCO	Juniperus	scopulorum	14
PINCON		contorta	· H
PINFLE	Pinus	flexilis	ı <sub>1</sub>
PINPON	Pinus	ponderosa	щ
POPTRE	Populus	tremuloides	
PSEMEN	Pseudotsuga	menziesii	х ,

# SHRUBS (48 taxa):

בֿ	343	(せんせつ つず) こり	ਰ ਹ
AM	AMEALN	Amelanchier	alnifolia
AF	ARCUVA	Arctostaphylos	H H
AF	ARTCAN	Si	cana
AF	ARTFRI	Artemisia	ri
. AF	ARTTRI	ε	tridentata
AT	ATRCAN	Atriplex	canescens
AT	ATRCON	Atriplex	confertifolia
AI	ATRGAR	Atriplex	gardneri
AT	ATRNUT	Atriplex	nuttallii
BE	BERREP	Berberis	repens
BE	ETOCC	Betula	occidentalis
S	ERLAN	Ceratoides	lanata
H	HRNAU	Chrysothamnus	nauseosus
E	HRVIS	u	viscidiflorus
CL	LECOL	Clematis	columbiana
ပ္ပ	CORSTO	Cornus	stolonifera
EL	LACOM	Elaeagnus	commutata
EU	EURLAN	Eurotia	lanata
0.D	GUTSAR	Gutierrezia	sarothrae
υΣ	JUNCOM	Juniperus	communis
JO	JUNHOR	peru	horizontalis
PO	POTFRU	Potentilla	fruticosa
PR	PRUVIR	Prunus	virginiana
RH	RHUTRI	Rhus	trilobata
RIB	Ø	Ribes	aureum
RI	BC	Ribes	cereum
RI	B		spp.
RI	ďΩ		lacustre
RI	BOX		oxyacanthoides
	BSE	Ribes	setosum
RO		Rosa	acicularis
RO	SA	Rosa	arkansana
RO	SAXX	Rosa	spp.

# Rocky Mountain Juniper Lodgepole Pine Ponderosa Pine Quaking Aspen Paper Birch Limber Pine Douglas-fir Green Ash

Western Serviceberry	Four-wing Saltbush	Shadscale
	Silver Sagebrush Fringed Sagewort Big Sagebrush	א שים
Kinnikinnick	Sag	nged Sa Sagebr
Kinnikinnick Silver Sagebrush	Sage	Sagebr ?-wing
nikin 7er S 1ged		2-wing
nikin ver S nged Sage r-win Iscal	Shadscale	
rikin rer S nged Sage r-win lscal		
rer S rer S rged Sage win fscal fner'		
rikin yer S nged Sage T-win Nscal Iner'	Shadscale Gardner's Saltsage Saltsage Creeping Oregongrape	Gardner's Saltsage Saltsage Creeping Oregongrape

Gardner's Saltsage	Saltsage	Creeping Oregongrap	Water Birch	Winterfat	Common Rabbitbrush	Green Rabbitbrush	Columbia Clematis	Red-osier Dogwood	Silverberry	Winterfat
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Silverbarr	Winterfat	Broom Snakeweed	Common Juniper	Creeping Juniper	Shrubby Cinquefoi	Common Chokecherr	Skunk-bush Sumac	Golden Currant	Squaw Currant
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TOTANDITO CITTINGNETOT	Swamp Currant	Northern Gooseber
	Skunk-bush Sumac Golden Currant Squaw Currant Currant; Gooseber	Skunk-bush Sumac Golden Currant Squaw Currant Currant; Gooseber Swamp Currant
Common Chokecherr	Golden Currant Squaw Currant Currant; Gooseber	Golden Currant Squaw Currant Currant; Gooseber Swamp Currant
eche Suma	Squaw Currant Currant; Gooseber	Squaw Currant Currant; Gooseber Swamp Currant
Common Chokecherr Skunk-bush Sumac Golden Currant	Currant; Gooseber	Currant; Gooseber Swamp Currant
Common Chokecherr Skunk-bush Sumac Golden Currant Squaw Currant		Swamp Currant
Common Chokecherr Skunk-bush Sumac Golden Currant Squaw Currant Currant; Gooseber Swamp Currant Northern Gooseber		
Common Chokecherr Skunk-bush Sumac Golden Currant Squaw Currant Currant; Gooseber Swamp Currant Northern Gooseber Missouri Gooseber		

#### Thorny Buffaloberry Canada Buffaloberry Shiny-leaf Spiraea Mountain Snowberry Western Snowberry Black Greasewood Common Snowberry Gray Horse-brush Poison Ivy Scouler Willow Watson Willow Geyer Willow Snowberry

Symphoricarpos occidentalis

Symphoricarpos oreophilus

SYMPHO Symphoricarpos spp.

TOXRYD Toxicodendron

YUCGLA

TETCAN Tetradymia

canescens rydbergii

betulifolia canadensis

albus

Symphoricarpos

SYMALB

SYMORE

Shepherdia

Spiraea

SPIBET

Shepherdia Sarcobatus

vermiculatus

argentea

scouleriana

geyeriana

Salix Salix SALSCO Salix

SALGEY

SALLUT SARVER SHEARG SHECAN

ROSWOO Rosa

woodsii lutea

SHRUBS CONTINUED:

# taxa) (82 GRAMINOIDS

		. (	
AGRCAN A	Agropyron	caninum	Bearded Wheaterses
	Agropyron	cristatum	Crested Wheatgrass
	Agropyron	dasystachyum	Thickspike Wheatgrass
AGROPY A	Agropyron	spp.	
AGROST P	Agrostis	spp.	Bentorass
	Agropyron	repens	Ouackarass
-	Agrostis	scabra	Tickle-grass
	Agropyron	smithii	Western Wheatgrass
	Agropyron	spicatum	Bluebunch Wheaterass
	Andropogon	hallii	Sand Bluestem
	Andropogon	scoparius	Little Bluestem
	Aristida	longiseta	Red Threeawn
	Aristida	purpurea	Red Threeawn
BOUCUR E	Bouteloua	curtipendula	Sideoat Grama
	Bouteloua	gracilis	Blue Grama
	Bromus .	ciliatus	Fringed Brome
	Bromus	inermis	Smooth Brome
	Bromus	japonicus	Japanese Brome
BROMOL B	Bromus	mollis	Soft Brome
	Bromus	tectorum	Cheatgrass
	Buchloe	dactyloides	Buffalo Grass
-	<b>Calamo</b> vilfa	longifolia	Prairie Sandreed
CALMON C	Calamagrostis	montanensis	
CARBRE C	Carex	brevior	Short-beaked Sedge
CARELE C	Carex	eleocharis	~
CAREXX C	Carex	.dds	

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CINT THORD:	filifolia	rd i	tusata	TOSYLV	מומספנים משטטמות	raegraciii	iisytvaii sejj	000	o a	comorny.	spitosa	picata	trict	glaucus	dahoens	octoflora	vina	cabr	uba	alticu	istata	acrant	uspidata	101	101d	Communia	=	1 1 1 1	1 44	nterior	ξo	nervosa	aden	palustris	pratensis	scabrella	secunda	spp.	ttallian	s paniculat	ri	rac	Ct ina	roides	07077
CTO	ď	Carex	א ה א ה	ס ת	1 t	א מ	א ה מ	ן ג	, ה ה	an	amp	stichlis	istichli	$\rightarrow$	stuc	stuc	ß	ഗ	ge	ncus.	eleri	leria	hlenbe	ryzopsı	zopsı	r y copo	1	Poa	Poa	Ó	Poa	Poa	Poa	Poa	Poa	Poa	Poa	Poa	Puccinellia	Schedonnardu	itan	Spartina	artin	porobo	poronous and
3	AR	CARFOE	) ρ	CARPET	בשמשבי	CARPW	CARROT	:	CARSTE	Æ	SCE	SP	DISSTR	ELYGLA	FESIDA	FESOCT	FESOVR	FESSCA	HORJUB	JONBAL	KOECKI	KOEMAC	MUHCUS	ORIASE	OKYHYM	PHBCOM	POAARI	POACUS	POAGLA	POAINT	POAJUN	A.	AN	AP	ΑP	A S	POASEC	OAX	UCNU	HPA	SITHYS	PAG		POA	Ca

Plains Muhly Roughleaf Ricegrass Indian Ricegrass Little-seed Ricegrass Common Reed Clustered Field Sedge VLong-stolon Sedge Ross Sedge Thread-leaved Sedge Silvertop Sedge Blunt Sedge Long-stolon Sedge Narrow-leaved Sedge Onespike Oatgrass Tufted Hairgrass Inland Saltgrass Alkali Saltgrass Blue Wildrye Idaho Fescue Nuttall's Alkaligrass Pine Bluegrass Sandberg's Bluegrass Plains Bluegrass Cusick's Bluegrass Pale-leaf Bluegrass Alkali Bluegrass Wheeler's Bluegrass Kentucky bluegrass Prairie Junegrass Prairie Junegrass Prairie Cordgrass Alkali Sacaton Rough Dropseed Inland Bluegrass Nevada Bluegrass Squirreltail Alkali Cordgrass Sheep Fescue Rough Fescue Foxtail Barley Baltic Rush Liddon's Sedge Fowl Bluegrass Beaked Sedge Tumblegrass Bottlebrush Bluegrass

	cryptandrus	Sand Dropseed
	comata	Needle-and-thread
	curtiseta	Porcupine Needlegrass
SIIOCC Stiba	occidentalis	Western Needlegrass
	spartea	
	viridula	Green Needlegrass
	spp.	Trisetum
	spicatum	Spike Trisetum
VULOCT Vulpia	octoflora	Six-weeks Fescue
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	granca	0
	cernum	
ALLGE ALLIUM	geyerı	eyer's
	rextile	Textile Onion
	alyssoides	Pale Alyssum
Alyssum	desertorum	Desert Alyssum
•	occidentalis	W. Fairy-candelabra
	septentrionalis	N. Fairy-candelabra
	multifida	iff Anemone
	nuttalliana	Pasqueflower
	patens	Pasqueflower
	corymbosa	Meadow Pussy-toes
	microphylla	SSV-toes
	neglecta	Field Pussy-toes
ANTPAR Antennaria	parvifolia	ll's Pussv
APOAND Apocynum	androsaemifolium	Dorhane
-	cannabinum	
APOSIB Apocynum	sibiricum	Clasping-leaved
		Dogbane
-	.dds	Rockcress
	drummondii	Drummond's Rockeress
	hirsuta	ress
ARAHOL Arabis	holboellii	Holboell's Bockcress
	aculeata	dwort
	capillaris	
	congesta	Ballhead Sandwort
ARELAT Arenaria	lateriflora	f Sandwo
AREMAC Arenaria	macrophvlla	Sandwort Sandwort
	spp.	Sandwort
ARENUT Arenaria	nuttallii	Nuttall's Sandwort
ARNCOR Arnica	$\neg$	f Arnica
-	fulgens	
	Campestris .	
RTDRA Artemis	dracunculus	
ARTLON Artemisia	longifolia	Long-leaved Sagewort
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i	AKTLUD	3 H	STAB	ΤA	ASTAGR	ASTARG	ANTELO	ASTCIL	S	ASTCRA	ST	STE	ASTERX	ASTEAC	ASIFAL	ASTELE	ASTFOL	ASTGIL	ASTLAE	ASTLOT	ASTMIS	ASTPAN	ASTPAU	ASTPEC	ASTPUR	ASTRAG	ASISIB	ASTITE	ATRARG	TRD	BALSAG	BESWYO	CALNUT	CAMMIC	$\circ$	AM	ASSE	ERAR	ERNU	HA!	HAND	HAS	EAL	1 1 1	CHELER	TVGH	4 ρ	L TAA T

Prairie Sagewort Whorled Milkweed Green Milkweed Indian Milk-vetch Standing Milk-vetch Field Milk-vetch Two-Groove Milk-vetch Long-leaved Aster Ground Plum Drummond's Milk-vetch Baton's Aster Aster Russian Sickle Milk-vetch White-prairie Aster Threadstalk Milk-vetch White-vetch White-vetch White-vetch Wilk Wilk-vetch White Prairie Aster Few-flowered Aster Lodus Milk-vetch Weedy Milk-vetch Weedy Milk-vetch Weedy Milk-vetch Weedy Milk-vetch Weedy Milk-vetch Wilk Wilk-vetch Weedy Milk-vetch White Prairie Aster Lotus Milk-vetch Wilk Wilk-vetch Wilk Wilk-vetch White-leaved Milk-vetch Wilk-vetch; Orophaca Artic Aster Draba Milk-vetch Silverscale Rillscale Arrowleaf Balsamroot Wyoming Kittentail Sego-lilly Plains Yellow Primrose Littlepod Falseflax Arrowleaf Balsamroot Wyoming Kittentail Sego-lilly Plains Yellow Primrose Littlepod Falseflax Arrowleaf Balsamroot Wyoming Chickweed Nodding Chickweed Nodding Chickweed Nodding Chickweed Hoary Chaenactis Eyebane Thyme-leaf Spurge Lambsquarter Desert Goosefoot Slimner Goosefoot Slimner Red	54 (0)
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Flodman's Thistle Thistle Wavy-leaved Thistle Narrow-leaf Collomia Small-flowered Blue-eyed Mary Bastard Toad-flax Horseweed Mustard Hare's Ear Striped Coral-root Pincushion Cactus	Western Hawksbeard Hawksbeard Northern Cryptantha Annual Cryptantha White Prairie-clover Nine-anther Prairie-clover Prairie-clover Little Larkspur Little Larkspur Larkspur Pinnate Tansymustard Richardson's	Transymustard Varnsymustard Wartberry Fairy-bell Few-seeded Draba Carolina Whitlow-grass Pale Purple Coneflower Fireweed Autumn Willow-herb Annual Buckwheat Tufted Fleabane Cut-leaved Daisy Yellow Buckwheat Daisy; Fleabane Common Eriophyllum Buf Fleabane Buckwheat; Wild Buckwheat Cushion Buckwheat Few-flowered Wild Buckwheat Shaggy Fleabane	Showy Fleabane Sulfur Buckwheat Plains Wallflower Wormseed Wallflower Smallflowered Leafy Spurge Corrugate-seeded
flodmanii spp. undulatum linearis parviflora umbellata canadensis orientalis striata	occidentalis spp. celosioides minima candida enneandra purpurea bicolor spp. pinnata richardsonii	sophia trachycarpum oligosperma reptans angustifolia angustifolium paniculatum annuum caespitosus compositus flavum spp. lanatum ochroleucus spp.	SD: speciosus umbellatum asperum cheiranthoides inconspicuum esula glyptosperma
	CREOCC Crepis CREDIS Crepis CRYCEL Cryptantha CRYMIN Cryptantha DALCAN Dalea DALENN Dalea DALENC Dalea DELBIC Delphinium DELPHI Delphinium DESPIN Descurainia	DESSOP Descurainia DISTRA Disporum DRACLI Draba DRAREP Draba ECHANG Echinacea EPIPANG Epilobium EPIPAN Epilobium ERICAE Erigeron ERICAE Erigeron ERICAM Eriophyllum ERICA Eriogonum ERICA Eriogonum ERICAM Eriogonum ERICAM Eriogonum ERICAM Eriogonum	FORBS CONTINUED: ERISPE Erigeron sp. ERIUMB Eriogonum assERYASP Erysimum assERYCHE Erysimum ch. ERYINC Erysimum in. Wallflower EUPGLY EUPhorbia es

ludoviciana spp. punctata australe lewisi perenne rigidum incisum ruderale spp.	cous foeniculaceum macrocarpum		grindelioides pinnatifida tanacetifolia alba officinalis albicaulis	decapetala laevicaulis pumila nutans spp.	linearis fistulosa nuttalliana	divaricatum cespitosa nuttallii spp. fraqilis	polyacantha fasciculata ludoviciana uniflora luteus chilensis
LESUUD Lesquerella LESQUE Lesquerella LIAPUN Liatris LINLEW Linum LINLEW Linum LINPER Linum LINRIG Linum LIRRIG Linum LIRRIG Linum LITINC Lithospermum LITINC Lithospermum LITRUD Lithospermum LOMATI Lomatium			MACGRI Machaeranthera MACPIN Machaeranthera MACTAN Machaeranthera MELALB Melilotus MELOFF Melilotus MENALB Mentzelia	MENDEC Mentzelia de MENLAE Mentzelia la MENDUM Mentzelia pu MICNUT Microseris nu MICROS Microseris sp FORBS CONTINUED:	MIRLIN Mirabilis Four-o'clock MONFIS Monarda MONNUT Monolepis	MUSDIV Musineon OENCES Oenothera Evening-primrose OENNUT Oenothera OENOTH Oenothera	
Rocky Mountain Spurge Spatulate-leaved Spurge Field Filago Forb Perennial Forb Forb Virginia Strawberry Checker Lily Yellow Bell Blanket-flower	Goose-grass Northern Bedstraw Sweetscented Bedstraw Scarlet Gaura Northern Gentian	Actual Gentlan Sticky Geranium Prairie Smoke American Licorice Curlycup Gumweed Frog Orchis Showy Stickseed	Thrift Goldenweed Thrift Goldenweed Woolly Goldenweed Spiny Goldenweed Drummond False Pennyroyal Rough Pennyroyal	Common Sunflower Maximilan's Sunflower Nuttall's Sunflower Hairy Golden-aster Richardson's Alumroot Stemless Hymenoxys Columbia Cut-leaf	Alchardson s Hymenoxys Rocky Mountain Iris Poverty-weed False-boneset Blue Lettuce	Blue Lettuce Prickly Lettuce Bristly Stickseed Western Stickseed Western Stickseed	
robusta spathulata arvensis perennial virginiana atropurpurea pudica aristata	aparine boreale triflorum coccinea amarella		armerioides lanuginosus spinulosus drummondii hispida sulphurescens	annuus maximiliani nuttallii villosa richardsonii acaulis filifolius polycephalus	missouriensis axillaris eupatorioides oblongifolia	pulchella serriola echinata myosotis redowskii	
Spurge EUPROB Euphorbia EUPSPA Euphorbia FILARV Filago FORBE Forb FORBKX Forb FORBXX Forb FRAVIR Fragaria FRIGHT Fritillaria GAIARI Gaillaria	GALAPA Galium GALBOR Galium GALTRI Galium GAUCOC Gaura GENAMA Gentianella	Geranium Geranium Geum Glycyrrhiz Grindelia Habenaria Hackelia	Haplopappu Haplopappu Haplopappu Hedeoma Hedeoma	HELANN HELIANTHUS HELMAX HELIANTHUS HELNUT HELIANTHUS HETVIL HETECOTHECA HEURIC HEUCHERA HYMACA HYMENOPAPPUS HYMRIC HYMENOPAPPUS HYMRIC HYMENOPAPPUS		LACPUL Lactuca LACSER Lactuca LAPECH Lappula LAPMED Lappula LAPRED Lappula	

Rusty Lupine Silky Lupine Drummond Campion Rush-like Skeletonweed

Nuttall's Goldenweed Spiny Goldenweed

Hoary Aster

Yellow Sweet-clover

White-stemmed

Mentzelia

White Sweet-clover

Tansy Aster

Evening Star Blazing-star Mentzelia Dwarf Mentzelia

Nodding Microseris

Microseris

Desert-parsley Bigseed Desert-parsley Nine-leaf Lomatium Spanish-clover

Silvery Lupine

Cous Biscuit-root

Fennel-leaved

Desert-parsley

Western Gromwell Yellow Flax Yellow Gromwell Wild Blue Flax Blue Flax

Biscuit-root;

Bladderpod Dotted Blazing-star South-wind Flax

Silvery Bladderpod

spp. Goldenrod missouriensis Missouri Goldenrod mollis Velvety Goldenrod nemoralis Gray Goldenrod rigida Stiff Goldenrod spathulata Dune Goldenrod	trifforum Cut-	pinnata pinnata longipes		media	media Chick runcinata Runci Skel	media eria runcinata intermedia moquinii	eria runcinata intermedia moquini laevigatum	media in runcinata intermedia moquinii laevigatum officinale	media ria runcinata intermedia moquinii laevigatum officinale s acaulis occidentale	media ria runcinata intermedia moquinii laevigatum officinale s acaulis occidentale rhombifolia	media ria runcinata intermedia moquinii laevigatum officinale s acaulis occidentale rhombifolia arvense	media a runcinata intermedia moquinii laevigatum officinale acaulis occidentale rhombifolia arvense dubius	media  intermedia  intermedia  moquinii  laevigatum  officinale  acaulis  occidentale  rhombifolia  arvense  dubius  occidentalis	media runcinata intermedia moquinii laevigatum officinale acaulis occidentale rhombifolia arvense dubius 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	SOLTRI Solanum SONASP Sonchus SPHCOC Sphaeralcea	STAPIN Stanleya STELON Stellaria	STEMED Stellaria STERUN Stephanomeria	SHATNT SHEEP		TARLAE Taraxacum	TETACA Tetraneuris		THERHO Thermopsis	THLARV Thlaspi		TRAUCC Tradescantia	TRILEP Triodanis	Venus'-looking-glass		FORBS CONTINUED:		VICAME Vicia					ZIGVEN Zigadenus	•	ال م		CISERA CYSTOPTEILS		WOOORE Woodsia							
Bessey's Crazyweed Slender Crazyweed Purple Locoweed Slender Crazyweed Silky Crazyweed; White Locowee	Crazyweed; Locoweed Pennsylvania Pellitory Stemless Whitlow-wort	White-flowered Penstemon Fuzzytongue Penstemon	Slender Penstemon Shining Penstemon	Small-flowered Penstemon Penstemon	White Prairie-clover	Fulpie Frairie-Clover Silverleaf Phacelia	Threadleaf Phacelia	Alyssum-leaved Phlox	Long-leaf Phlox	Plains Bahia	Indian-wheat White Milkwort	Prostrate Knotweed	Douglas' Knotweed	Bushy Knotweed	sam cinquerom Slender Cinquefoil	Woolly Cinquefoil	Prairie Cinquefoil	Sllver-leaved	Indian Bread-root	Lemon Scurf-pea	Slender-flowered		Pink Wintergreen Ono-sided Winterman	One-Sided Wincergreen Prairie Coneflower	Curly Dock	Russian Thistle	$\sim$	Lance-leaved Stonecrop	Woolly Groundsel	Campion: Catchfly	Scouler's Silene	Tumblemustard	Blue-eyed Grass	Mountain Blue-eyed Grass	False Spikenard	Starry Solomon-man
besseyi campestris lambertii monticola sericea splendens	Spp. pensylvanica sessiliflora	arbidus eriantherus	gracilis nitidus	procerus spp.	candidum	hastata	linearis	alyssifolia hoodii	longifolia		paragonica alba	aviculare	douglasii	ramosissimum arguta	gracilis	hippiana	pensylvanica	argopnylla Scurf-pea	esculenta	lanceolata	tenuiflora	Scuri-pea	asatiloila Secunda	columnifera	crispus	australis	rettexa	lanceolatum	canus plattensis	Spp.	scouleri	altissimum	angustifolium	montanum	racemosa	stellata
OXYBES Oxytropis OXYCAM Oxytropis OXYLAM Oxytropis OXYMON Oxytropis OXYSER Oxytropis OXYSEL Oxytropis					PETCAN Petalostemon			FHLHOO Phlox			Furfai Fiancayo POLALB Polyqala		POLDOU Polygonum	POTARG Potentilla			POLFEN Fotentilla		PSOESC Psoralea		PSOTEN Psoralea	PVRASA DVVRASA				SALAUS Salsola	SELNE SALVIA						SISANG Sisyrinchium	stamon stsyrinchium		SMISTE Smilacina

APPENDIX B. CONSTANCY, AVERAGE COVER AND RANGE OF COVER VALUES FOR VASCULAR PLANT SPECIES WITH GREATER THAN 3% CANOPY COVER IN ANY GIVEN PLOT.

Constancy is expressed as the percentage (to nearest whole number) of plots (sites) within a given community type or plant association in which a given species occurs. Average canopy cover is computed by summing the midpoints values of the cover classes for a given species and community type and dividing this value by the number of plots in which the species occurs. The range of canopy cover is expressed as the minimal value and maximal canopy cover value for a given species within a given community type. The community types/plant associations are ordered by decreasing size of dominant lifeform (forests, shrublands, herb-dominated) and aphabetically within lifeform category.

				Ap	Appendix B-	÷.									
Forest/Woodland *********	orest/Woodland Community Types C	Cover Constan	ncy Table:	Consta	 ancy (Aver ******	age A	Abund)	[Rang	0 +	Minimum	1 +	Maximum]	-		
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Appendix B-1 (COHL.)	<pre>Forest/WoodLand Community Types Cover Constancy Table: Constancy (Average Abund) [Range, Minimum - Maximum] ***********************************</pre>	* JUNSCO/ORYMIC * PINCON/JUNCOM * PINFLE/AGRSPI *	* Z = N	*********	[0-0] 0 (0) [0-0] 100 (1) [1-1] 0 (0) [0-0]			[1-3] 17 $[1]$ 1 - 11 0 $[0]$ 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	- 0 ] (0 )					50 (2) [1 - 3] 0 (0) [0 - 0] 100 (1) [1 - 1] 0 (0) [0 -	) [ 0 - 0] 100 ( 2 ) [ 1 - 3 ] 100 ( 1 ) [ 1 - 1 ] 100 ( 2 ) [ 0 ]	17 (1) [1 - 1] [0 (0) [0 - 0] [10 [1] [11 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [1] [10 [1] [10 [1] [1] [1] [10 [1] [1] [1] [10 [1] [1] [1] [1] [				[0-0] 17 (1) $[1-1]$ 0 (0) $[0-0]$ 0 (0) $[0-0]$	
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[Range, Minimum - Maximum] Forest/Woodland Community Types Cover Constancy Table: Constancy (Average Abund) [Range, Minimum - Maxim M0000M0000M000H0 PINPON/SYMOCC (10) PINPON/JUNHOR (12) (37) (37) (0) (0) (1) (1) (1) (1) (2) (0) Appendix B-1 (cont.) HM0000000HH000HH PINPON/FESIDA PPOOOPPOOOOO (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2000) (2 00000000000000 PINPON/CARPEN # Sites \* N = 9 \* N = 5 (3) (10) (20) (20) (20) (14) (10) (10) (10) (10) (20) (20) (25) PINPON/AGRSPI 0100011100000 (0) (45) (45) (50) (6) (6) (7) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) 77800000077700000 Graminoids BOUCUR BOUGRA CALLON FESIDA KOECRI MUHCUS ORYMIC STICOM STISPA CAREXX CARFIL ACHMIL ANEPAT AGRDAS APOAND DISTRA EPIANG Community AGRSPI ANDSCO CARPEN AREMAC ARTLUD ASTAGR ASTCON BALSAG CHRVIL AGRSMI CARROI ARNCOR CAMROT COMUMB CERARV Forbs

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Appendix B-2 (cont.)

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CARSTE	(1)	- 0 ] (0 )	9 (20) [20 - 2	(20) [20 - 20] 25 (3) [3 -
FESIDA	- 0 ] (0 )	- 0 ] (0 )	- 0 ] (0 )	-01(0)0 [0 -0](0)
FESSCA	- 0 ] (0 )	-0](0)	-0](0)	- 0 1 (0 ) 0 [0 - 0] (0)
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OKIHIM	- 0 - 0	- 0 ] (0 )	- 0 ] (0 )	(1)[1-1] 0 $(0)[0-$
FOAFAL	- 0 - (0 )	- 0 ] (0 ) 0	- 0 ] (0 ) 0	10 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
FOASEC	- T ] (T )	(1) [1-	(3) [3 -	(2) [1-3] 0 (0) [0-
SPOAIR		0 (0) [0 - 0]	0 (0) [0 - 0]	0 (0) [0 - 0] (0) 0 (0) 0
STICOM		(10)	- 0 ] (0 )	(0)[0-0] 0(0)[0-
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ANTMIC	] (0)	- 0 ] (0 )	9 (2) [1 -	
ARNFUL	- 0 ] (0 )	- 0 ] (0 )	(3) [3-	
ARTIUD	- 0 ] (0 )	- 0 ] (0 )	9 (1) [1 -	
ATRARG	- 0 ] (0 )	- 0 ] (0 )	- 0 ] (0 )	
AIRDIO	- 0 1 (O )	- 0 ) (0 ) 0	- 0 ) (0 )	- 0 ] (0 ) 0 [0 - 0 ] (0 )
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ERIPAU				9 (1) [1 - 1] 0 (0) [0 -
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Shrub Community Types Cover Constancy Table: Constancy (Average Abund) [Range, Minimum - Maximum]

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Appendix B-2 (cont.)

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Shrub Community Types Cover Constancy Table: Constancy (Average Abund) [Range, Minimum - Maximum] SHEARG/X 3) 99999999999999 1000 SARVER/ATRNUT 000000000000000000 Appendix B-2 (cont.) 00000000000000000 SARVER/AGRSMI 0000400040000400 RHUTRI/AGRSPI JUNHOR/JUNBAL нооооооооооо (173) (173) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) (100) FESIDA FESSCA POAPAL POASEC SPOASP STICOM STICUR STIVIR BROTEC CALLON CARFIL CARPEN ANEMUL ANENUT ANTMIC ARNFUL JUNBAL CARSTE ORYHYM SPOAIR ACHMIL COMUMB Community CALMON KOECRI MUHCUS ANEPAT ARTLUD ATRARG ATRDIO CHRVIL COLLIN ERIPAU GALBOR

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Appendix B-2 (cont.)
Shrub Community Types Cover Constancy Table: Constancy (Average Abund) [Range, Minimum - Maximum]

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Appendix B-2 (cont.)

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Appendix B-2 (cont.)

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lity Types Cover Constan	**************************************	* T = N *	<	- 0 ] (0 )	- 0 ] (0 )	- 0 ] (0 )	- 0 ] (0 ) 0	(30) [30 -	- 0 - 0	100 (60) [60 - 60]	- 0 ] (0 )	- 0 ] (0 )	- 0 ] (0 )	101(0)	(40) [40 -	- 0 ] (0 ) 0	- 0 ] (0)	- 0 ] (0 )	- 0 ] (0 )	- 0 ] (0 )	- 0 ] (0 )	- 0 ] (0 )	- 0 ] (0 )	- 0 ] (0 )	- 0 ] (0 ) 0			- 0 - (0 )	- 0 ] (0 )	0 (0) [0 - 0]	- 0 ] (0 )	- 0 ] (0 )	- 0 ] (0 )	- 0 1 (0 )
	**************************************	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *	ntinued	- 0 ] (0 )	- 0 ] (0 )	0 (0) [0 - 0]	- 0 ] (0 )	(20 – 5	1 0 1 (0 )		-0](0)	- 0 ] (0 )	1 0 1 (0)	1 (0)	(1) [1 -	- 0 ] (0 )	- 0 ] (0 )	- 0 ] (0 )	- 0 ] (0 )	- 0 ] (0 )	- 0 ] (0 )	- 0 ] (0 )	- 0 ] (0 )	- 0 ] (0 )	- 0 - (0 )	56	- 0 - (0 )	(3) (3)	- 0 ] (0 ) 0	- 0 ] (0 ) 0	(1) (1)	- 0 - (0 )	33	- 0 1 (0 )
	**************************************	# Sites ******	raminoi	DESCES	DISSPI	DISSTR	FESOCT	JONBAL	MIHCHS	PHRCOM	POAARI	POAJUN	FOAFKA	POASEC	SPAGRA	SPAPEC	STICOM	STICUR	STIVIK Forbs	ACHMIL	ANEPAT	ANTMIC	ANTPAR	ARECON	ARTURA	ARTLID	ASTADS	ASTFAL	CERARV	CHRVIL	Σ:	DALPUR	ECHANG FP-1070	1. ! K.

Minimum - Ma: ********* STICOM-CARFIL N = 14	0 ( 0) [ 0 - 0] 0 ( 0) [ 0 - 0] 0 ( 0) [ 0 - 0] 29 ( 1) [ 11 - 1] 0 ( 0) [ 0 - 0] 21 ( 1) [ 11 - 1] 57 ( 3) [ 11 - 1] 14 ( 1) [ 11 - 1] 86 ( 2) [ 11 - 1] 86 ( 2) [ 11 - 1] 14 ( 1) [ 11 - 1] 0 ( 0) [ 0 - 0] 0 ( 0) [ 0 - 0] 0 ( 0) [ 0 - 0] 14 ( 1) [ 11 - 1] 0 ( 0) [ 0 - 0] 14 ( 2) [ 11 - 1] 0 ( 0) [ 0 - 0] 14 ( 2) [ 11 - 1] 15 ( 1) [ 11 - 1] 16 ( 0) [ 0 - 0] 17 ( 1) [ 11 - 1] 18 ( 1) [ 11 - 1] 19 ( 0) [ 0 - 0] 10 ( 0) [ 0 - 0] 11 ( 1) [ 11 - 1] 12 ( 1) [ 11 - 1] 13 ( 1) [ 11 - 1] 14 ( 2) [ 11 - 1] 15 ( 10 - 0] 16 ( 0) [ 0 - 0] 17 ( 1) [ 11 - 1] 18 ( 1) [ 11 - 1] 19 ( 0) [ 0 - 0]
(Average Abund) [Rar ************************************	(1) (0) (0) (0) (0) (0) (0) (0) (0) (0) (0
Appendix B-3 (cont. cy Table: Constancy ************************************	000000000000000000000000000000000000000
Types Cover Constancy ************************************	
Herbaceous Community ************************************	d ( 0) [ 0 - 0] 1 0 ( 0) ( 0) ( 0 - 0] 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
**************************************	Forbs Continued HEDHIS HELANN HELANN HELANN LIVAAXI LITINC LIVAGAXI OOVUPOL OOVICAM PENALB PETCAN PETCAN PHICHOO PLAPAT PSOARG PSOARG PSOARG PSOARG PSOARG PSOARG PSOARG PSOARG PSOARG OOVUCAMS SOLMIS

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Community \* STICUR-STIVIR

	,						
10]	00181	201	33	9 7 0 0	77077	30000	30] 20] 33] 10]
1 1 1 1			1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1	1 1 1 1	
11001	0044-		0 - 0	0 4 M C		0000	1 3 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
(1) (10) (10)	1210	0000	(3)	(12)	3000	06000	(25) (11) (2) (5)
78 89 0 11	25 33 11	3311	5 50	1140	33033	787	222 111 556 44 33
Shrubs ARTCAN ARTFRI ARTTRI CERLAN	CHRVIS CHRVIS GUTSAR JUNHOR RHUTRI	ROSACI ROSARK ROSAXX SARVER	SYMOCC YUCGLA Graminoids	AGKCKI AGRDAS AGROPY AGRSCA	AGRSMI AGRSPI ANDSCO	ANTEUR BOUGRA BROJAP BROTEC	BUCDAC CALLON CALMON CARFIL CARPEN CARROI

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Appendix B-3 (cont.)

* O * D	Appendix B-3 (CONT.) Herbaceous Community Types Cover Constancy (Average Abund) [Range, Minimum - Maximum]	munity * STICUR-STIVIR * ites * N = 9 * 1	-)×	Continued		+ 0 ] (0 ) 0	- 0 ] (0 ) 0	-0](0)0	-0](0)0	89 (3) [1-	22 (7) [3 -	- 0 ] (0 ) 0	- 0 ] (0 ) 0	-0](0)0	-0](0)	33 (2) [1-	-0](0)0	- 0 · ] (0 ) 0	- 0 ] (0 ) 0	33 (2) [1-	89 (39) [20 – 6	VIR 67 (18) [ 1 –	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	44 (1) [1 –	- 0 ] (0 ) 0	22 (1) [1-	33 ( 1)   1 -	22 ( 1) [ 1	- T ( 3)		- T ] (7 ) 55	- 0 1 (0 ) 0	22 (1) [1 -	33 (	33 (	22 (1) [1 -	22 (	- 0 ] (0 ) 0	RIPAU
	****	Community # Sites	*****	Graminoids	DESCES	DISSPI	DISSTR	FESOCT	JUNBAL	KOECRI	MUHCUS	PHRCOM	POAARI	POAJUN	POAPRA	POASEC	POAXXX	SPAGRA	SPAPEC	STICOM	STICUR	STIVIR	0 0 4	ACHMIL	ANEPAT	ANTMIC	ANTFAK	ARECON	AKIDKA	ARILON	ARITOD	ASTADS	ASTFAL	CERARV	CHRVIL	COMUMB	DALPUR	ECHANG	ERIPAU

	****	***************************************
ommunıty	STICUR-STIV	
# Sites *	* 6   N	
*****	******************	**************************************
Forbs Continued	inued	X
HEDHIS	11 (1) [1 - 1]	
HELANN	- 0 ] (0 )	
HELNUT	0 (0) [0 - 0]	
IVAAXI	11 (1) [1 - 1]	
LINAUS	(1)[1-	
LITINC	11 (3) [3 - 3]	
LYGJUN	(2) [1-	
OPUPOL	(2) [1-	
OXYLAM	(1)[1-	
PENALB	- 0 ] (0 )	
PETCAN	(2)[1-	
PHLHOO	) 1	
PLAPAT	- 0 ] (0 )	
PSOARG	(2) [1-	
PSOTEN	- 0 ] (0 )	
RUMCRI	] (0)	
SOLMIS	11 (1) [1 - 1]	
SOLMOL	] (0 )	
SPHCOC	11 (1) [1 - 1]	
STEMED	-0](0)	
	_	
THERHO	22 (2) [1 - 3]	
VICAME	22 (2) [1 - 3]	
ZIGVEN	22 (1) [1 - 1]	
Al	lied Taxa	
SELDEN	(2	
WOOORE	0 (0) [0 - 0]	

APPENDIX C: Assignment of plots (site numbers in ECADS) to community types; arranged alphabetically within lifeform groupings.

TIINSCO/AGBSPT		Forested Co	Community Types and The	Their Assigned Site Numbers	mbers:	
	2.	NHMT320392LR0094	3. NHMT310593SC0053			
2. JUNSCO/ORYMIC 4. NHMT320392LR0097 9. NHMT310593SC0017	5.	NHMT320392LR0006	6. NHMT310593SC0015	7. NHMT320392LR0061	8. NHMT320390RD0004	
3. PINCON/JUNCOM 10. NHMT310493SC0006	11.	11. NHMT310493SC0010				
4. PINFLE/AGRSPI 12. NHMT320392RD0005						
5. PINPON/ARCUVA 13. NHMT310493SC0004	14.	NHMT310493SC0002			,	
6. PINPON/AGRSPI 15. NHMT310493SC0011 20. NHMT320392LR0068	16.	NHMT320392LR0069 NHMT320392LR0083	17. NHMT320392LR0085 22. NHMT320392RD0013	18. NHMT320392LR0103 23. NHMT310490JL0073	19. NHMT310493SC0012	
7. PINPON/CARPEN 24. NHMT320392LR0088	25.	NHMT320392LR0089	26. NHMT310490JL0035	27. NHMT310390JL0062	28. NHMT310490JL0072	
8. PINPON/FESIDA 29. NHMT310493SC0005						
9. PINPON/JUNHOR 30. NHMT320392LR0100	31.	NHMT320392LR0099	32. NHMT320392LR0101			
<pre>10. PINPON/SYMOCC 33. NHMT310490RD0048</pre>						
11. PINPON-JUNSCO 34. NHMT310590RD0022 39. NHMT320392LR0080 44. NHMT310390JL0060	35. 40.	NHMT310490JL0030 NHMT310590RD0023 NHMT320392RD0012	36. NHMT310490JL0043 41. NHMT310390RD0029 46. NHMT320392LR0081	37. NHMT310390JL0061 42. NHMT310490JL0028 47. NHMT320392LR0090	38. NHMT320392LR0102 43. NHMT310490JL0037	
12. PSEMEN/AMEALN 48. NHMT310493SC0013	49.	NHMT310493SC0003				
13. PSEMEN/SYMOCC 50. NHMT310493SC0009	т Ф	NHMT310493SC0014	52. NHMT310490RD0047			
14. PSEMEN/VIOCAN 53. NHMT310493SC0001						

	APPI	APPENDIX C (cont.)	Shrub	ub Community Types	and Their	Assigned S	Site Numbers:
<ol> <li>ARTCAN/AGRSMI</li> <li>NHMT310593SC0052</li> <li>NHMT320392LR0063</li> </ol>	2.	NHMT310490JL0044	e m	NHMT320392LR0059	4. NHMT310590JL0011	011	5. NHMT310490JL0069
2. ARTCAN/STICOM 7. NHWT310390RD0039 12. NHWT310490JL0023	13.	NHMT310490JL0047 NHMT310390JL0048	9.	NHMT310390JL0052 NHMT320392LR0065	10. NHMT320392LR0086 15. NHMT310390RD0045		11. NHMT310390RD0041
3. ARTTRI/AGRSMI 16. NHMT310490RD0002 21. NHMT310390JL0058 26. NHMT310490JL0042	17. 22. 27.	NHMT310590JL0004 NHMT310390RD0034 NHMT310590RD0024	18. 23. 28.	NHMT310590JL0007 NHMT310390RD0032 NHMT310490JL0074	19. NHMT310490JL0026 24. NHMT310590JL0005		20. NHMT310490JL0029 25. NHMT310490JL0025
4. ARTTRI/AGRSPI 29. NHMT310390RD0036	30.	NHMT310490JL0036	31.	NHMT320392LR0004	32. NHMT310490JL0032		33. NHMT320392RD0003
5. ARTTRI/ATRCON 34. NHMT310390RD0030	35.	NHMT320392LR0005	36.	NHMT320392LR0067	37. NHMT320392RD0007		38. NHMT320392LR0010
6. ARTTRI/FESSCA 39. NHMT310390RD0027	40.	NHMT310390RD0028					
7. ATRNUT/AGRSMI 41. NHMT320392LR0048	42.	NHMT320390RD0003					
8. ATRNUT/AGRSPI 43. NHMT320392RD0017							
9. ATRNUT/ERIPAU 44. NHMT320392LR0047	45.	NHMT320392LR0050	46.	NHMT320392LR0052	47. NHMT320392LR0051	051	
10. ATRNUT/SPOAIR 48. NHMT320392RD0008							
11. CERLAN/STICOM 49. NHMT310590JL0002	50.	NHMT320392RD0016	51.	NHMT310490JL0038	52. NHMT320392LR0092		53. NHMT310390JL0049
12. ELECOM/X 54. NHMT310590RD0017							
13. JUNHOR/AGRDAS 55. NHMT310593SC0005 60. NHMT310493SC0036	56.	NHMT310493SC0033 NHMT310493SC0045	57.	NHMT310593SC0044	58. NHMT310493SC0049		59. NHMT310593SC0024

APPENDIX C (cont.) Shrub Community Types and Their Assigned Site Numbers Continued:

66. NHMT320392RD0009 71. NHMT320392RD0014					91. NHMT320392LR0066 96. NHMT320392LR0079		
65. NHMT320392LR0017 70. NHMT310490JL0070	76. NHMT310593SC0008	80. NHMT310593SC0013			90. NHMT320392LR0001 95. NHMT320392LR0008		
64. NHMT310490JL0068 69. NHMT310490JL0066	75. NHMT320392RD0015	79. NHMT310493SC0046	83. NHMT320392LR0098	86. NHMT310490JL0076	89. NHMT310390JL0059 94. NHMT310490JL0041		
63. NHMT310390RD0050 68. NHMT310590RD0021	74. NHMT310593SC0003	78. NHMT310593SC0012	82. NHMT320392LR0053	85. NHMT310493SC0035	88. NHMT310490JL0039 93. NHMT310390RD0038	98. NHMT310593SC0011	
14. JUNHOR/ANDSCO 62. NHWT310590RD0012 67. NHWT320392LR0064 72. NHWT320392LR0003	15. JUNHOR/CALLON 73. NHMT310493SC0039	16. JUNHOR/JUNBAL 77. NHMT310593SC0004	17. RHUTRI/AGRSPI 81. NHMT310390JL0057	18. SARVER/AGRSMI 84. NHMT310490JL0031	<ol> <li>SARVER/ATRNUT</li> <li>NHWT320392RD0002</li> <li>NHWT310590RD0019</li> </ol>	20. SHEARG/X 97. NHMT310593SC0021	21. YUCGLA/X 99. NHMT320392LR0087

APPENDIX C (cont.) Herbaceous Community Types and Their Assigned Site Numbers:

5. NHMT310490JL0045 10. NHMT32039ZLR0002 15. NHMT310490JL0015 20. NHMT32039ZLR0016	29. NHMT310390JL0065 34. NHMT320392LR0055 39. NHMT310490JL0071 44. NHMT320392LR0084				59. NHMT310390RD0044	66. NHMT320392LR0093		79. NHMT320392RD0010			
. NHMT310590JL0010 . NHMT320392RD0011 . NHMT310590JL0009 . NHMT320392LR0013	. NHMT310390JL0053 . NHMT32039ZLR0095 . NHMT310390JL0064 . NHMT32039ZLR0106				. NHMT310493SC0015	. NHMT320392LR0058	. NHMT310493SC0047	. NHMT320392LR0062 . NHMT320392LR0054			
2 D D D D D D D D D D D D D D D D D D D	221 28. 316 33. 324 38. 311 43.	75	012		)56 58	65	74	78 83			
NHMT310590JL0008 NHMT320392RD0004 NHMT310390RD0043 NHMT320392RD0006	NHMT310490JL0021 NHMT310590RD0016 NHMT310490JL0024 NHMT320392LR0011 NHMT310593SC0042	NHMT310490JL0075	NHMT320392LR0012		NHMT310390JL0056	NHMT320392LR0014 NHMT320392LR0057	NHMT310390RD0037	NHMT310493SC0037 NHMT320392LR0105			
3. 13. 18.	27. 32. 37. 42.	. 50.	, 53,		57.	64. 69.	73.	77.			
NHMT310590RD0020 NHMT310593SC0010 NHMT310590RD0018 NHMT310593SC0043	NHMT310590JL0012 NHMT310593SC0023 NHMT310490JL0016 NHMT320390RD0005	NHMT310493SC0007	NHMT320392LR0056		NHMT310390RD0049 NHMT320392LR0049	NHMT320392LR0009 NHMT310590RD0033	NHMT310493SC0040	NHMT310593SC0030 NHMT310593SC0031		NHMT310593SC0012	
2. 7. 12. 17.	26. 31. 441.	49.	52.		56.	63. 68.	72.	76.		.98	
1. AGRSMI-BOUGRA 1. NHWT310590RD0001 6. NHMT310593SC0002 11. NHWT310390JL0055 16. NHWT310490JL0022	2. AGRSMI-STIVIR 25. NHWT310590RD0015 30. NHMT310590JL0006 40. NHWT310593SC0016 45. NHWT310590JL0001	3. AGRSPI-AGRSMI 48. NHMT310490JL0034	4. AGRSPI-BOUGRA 51. NHMT310493SC0008	5. AGRSPI-CARFIL 54. NHMT320392LR0015	6. AGRSPI-POASEC 55. NHMT310390RD0040 60. NHMT310390RD0051	7. ANDSCO-CARFIL 62. NHMT320390RD0010 67. NHMT310590RD0013	8. ARTLON/ORYHYM 71. NHMT310390RD0035	9. CALLON-CARPEN 75. NHMT310590JL0003 80. NHMT310490JL0033	10. DESCES/X 84. NHMT310593SC0022	11. JUNBAL/X 85. NHMT310593SC0026	12. PHRAUS/X 87. NHMT310493SC0038

APPENDIX C (cont.) Herbaceous Community Types and Their Assigned Site Numbers (Cont.)

90. NHMT310593SC0032

89. NHMT310493SC0050

13. SPAPEC-SPAGRA 88. NHMT310593SC0025

14. STICOM-BOUGRA

95. NHMT310593SC0006 100. NHMT310593SC0001	108. NHMT320390RD0009 113. NHMT320390RD0007	122. NHMT310490JL0013
95.	108.	122.
94. NHMT310390JL0051 99. NHMT310490JL0046	107. NHMT310490JL0019 112. NHMT310490JL0017 117. NHMT310390JL0063	121. NHMT310593SC0009 126. NHMT310490JL0018
904.	107. 112. 117.	121.
93. NHMT310390RD0042 98. NHMT310390RD0031 103. NHMT310493SC0048	106. NHMT310490JL0014 111. NHMT310490JL0040 116. NHMT310593SC0029	120. NHMT310593SC0020 125. NHMT310593SC0019
92. NHMT320390RD0006 97. NHMT310590RD0014 102. NHMT310593SC0018	105. NHMT310490JL0020 110. NHMT320392LR0060 115. NHMT310490JL0067	119. NHMT310593SC0041 124. NHMT310593SC0028
91. NHMT320392RD0001 96. NHMT310593SC0051 101. NHMT310593SC0007	15. STICOM-CARFIL 104. NHMT310590RD0011 109. NHMT310390RD0046 114. NHMT310390JL0054	16. STICUR-STIVIR 118. NHMT310593SC0027 123. NHMT310493SC0034

**APPENDIX D:** Plant associations and community types occurring in Bureau of Land Management Havre, Phillips, Valley and Big Dry Resource Areas; listed by decreasing size of dominant lifeform and alphabetically within lifeform (includes their accompanying G- and S-ranks [S-rank for whole state, not merely study area]).

CONIFER-DOMINATED FOREST & WOODLANDS: G-rank	S-rank
Abies Iasiocarpa Series	
/Juniperus communis 5	3
/Linnaea borealis 5	5
Picea species Series	
/Cornus stolonifera (C. sericea) 3	3
/Equisetum arvense 4	4
/Juniperus communis 2	2
/Linnaea borealis 4	4
Juniperus scopulorum Woodland Series	
Agropyron spicatum (Pseudoroegneria spicata) 4	4
/Oryzopsis micrantha 3	3
Pinus contorta Series	
/Juniperus communis 5	3
/Linnaea borealis 5	5
Pinus flexilis Woodland Series	
/Agropyron spicatum (Pseudoroegneria spicata) 4	4
Pinus ponderosa Forest Series	
/Amelanchier alnifolia 2	2
IAndropogon scoparius (Schizachyrium scoparium) 2	2
/Arctostaphylos uva-ursi 5	3
/Berberis repens 3	3
/Carex heliophila 3	3
/Festuca idahoensis 5	4
/Juniperus scopulorum 4	4
IPrunus virginiana 4	4
/Symphoricarpos occidentalis 3	3
Pinus ponderosa Woodland Series	
/ // // // // // // // // // // // // /	4
/Andropogon spp. 2	2
/Juniperus horizontalis 3	3

APPENDIX D (cont.)		
Pseudotsuga menziesii Forest Series	G-rank	S-rank
/Amelanchier alnifolia	2	2
/Arctostaphylos uva-ursi	4	4
/Berberis repens (Mahonia repens)	5	3
/Cornus canadensis	3	3
/Linnaea borealis	4	4
/Symphoricarpos occidentalis	3	3
Niola canadensis	3	3
Pseudotsuga menziesii Woodland Series	<b>,</b>	
/Agropyron spicatum (Pseudoroegneria spicata)	5	4
/Andropogon scoparius (Schizachyrium scoparium)	1	1
/Juniperus scopulorum	3	3
/Muhlenbergia cuspidata	2 .	2
BROAD-LEAVED, MAINLY COLD-DECIDUOUS FORESTS:		
Fraxinus pennsylvanica/Prunus virginiana	3	3
Traxinae pointeyivanican rande viiginana		9
Salix amygdaloides	3	3
Agar nagunda / Drunua virginiana	0	0
Acer negundo/Prunus virginiana	3	3
Fraxinus pennsylvanica-Ulmus americana/Prunus virginiana	1	1
Populus deltoides/Cornus stolonifera (C. sericea)	4	4
Populus deltoides/ Herbaceous c.t.	5?·	4?
Populus deltoides/ Recent Alluvial Bar	5?	5?
	0,	<b>.</b>
Populus trichocarpa/Cornus stolonifera (C. sericea)	4	4
SHRUBLANDS AND THICKETS:		
Artemisia cana/Agropyron (Pascopyrum) smithii	4 .	4
A. cana/Stipa comata	3	3
	J	Ŭ
Artemisia tridentata/Agropyron (Pascopyrum) smithii	5	5
A. tridentata/Agropyron spicatum (Pseudoroegneria spicata)	5	5
A. tridentata-Atriplex confertifolia	4	4
A. tridentata-Atriplex nuttallii (A. gardneri)	3	3
A. tridentata/Festuca idahoensis	4 .	4
A. tridentata/Festuca scabrella	3	3
A. tridentata/Stipa comata	5	4
Atriplex confertifolia	5	3
A CARPION CONTOUNDING	J	J

APPENDIX D (cont.) SHRUBLANDS AND THICKETS CONTINUED	G-rank	S-rank		
Atriplex nuttallii (A.gardneri)/Agropyron (Pascopyrum) smithii A. nuttallii (A. gardneri)/Sporobolus airoides A. nuttallii (A. gardneri)/Eriogonum pauciflorum	3 ? ?	3 ? ?		
Ceratoides (Krascheninnikovia) lanata/Stipa comata	3	3		
Crataegus succulenta	2	2		
Eleagnus angustifolia	SR	SR		
Eleagnus commutata Eleagnus commutata/Agropyron smithii	2 2	2 2		
Juniperus horizontalis/Andropogon scoparius J. horizontalis/Agropyron dasystachyum (Elymus lanceolatus ss	4 sp. <i>lanceolatu</i> 3?	4 (s) 3?		
J. horizontalis/Agropyron spicatum (Pseudoroegneria spicata)				
J. horizontalis/Calamovilfa longifolia J. horizontalis/Carex pensylvanica (C. inops) J. horizontalis/Juncus balticus	3? 3? 4 4?	3? 3? 4 4?		
Prunus virginiana	4	4		
Rhus trilobata (R. aromatica)/Agropyron spicatum (Pseudoroegneria spicata)				
R. trilobata (R. aromatica)/Calamovilfa longifolia	<b>4</b> 5	4 4		
Rosa woodsii	4	4		
Shepherdia argentea	4	4		
Symphoricarpos occidentalis	4	4		
Salix exigua	5	5		
Salix lutea/Poa pratensis	4	4		
Sarcobatus vermiculatus/Agropyron (Pascopyrum) smithii S. vermiculatus-Atriplex nuttallii (A. gardneri) Yucca glauca/Calamovilfa longifolia	4 4 4	4 3 4		

## APPENDIX D (cont.)

GRASSLANDS and FORB-DOMINATED COMMUNITIES Agropyron (Pascopyrum) smithii A. smithii-Bouteloua gracilis A. smithii-Carex filifolia A. smithii-Stipa viridula		G-rar 4 5 4 4	nk	S-rank 4 4 4 4
Agropyron spicatum-A. smithii A. spicatum-Bouteloua gracilis A. spicatum-Calamovilfa longifolia A. spicatum-Carex filifolia A. spicatum-Muhlenbergia cuspidata	4	5 5 ? 4	3	4 4 ? 4
A. spicatum-Poa sandbergii		4		4
Agrostis stolonifera		5		5
Andropogon gerardii/Calamavilfa longifolia		3		2
Andropogon scoparius-Carex filifolia A. scoparius-Muhlenbergia cuspidata		4 2		3 2
Artemisia longifolia A. longifolia/Oryzopsis hymenoides		3 1?		3 1?
Calamovilfa longifolia/Carex heliophila		3		2
Carex aquatilis		5		4
Carex nebrascensis		4		4
Deschampsia cespitosa		4		4
Distichlis spicata		4		4
Eleocharis palustris		4		4
Festuca scabrella-Festuca idahoensis		5		5
Festuca idahoensis-Carex pensylvanica		3		3
Glycyrrhiza lepidota		?		?
Hordeum jubatum		4		4

## APPENDIX D (cont.)

GRASSLANDS and FORB-DOMINATED COMMUNITIES (CONT.)  Juncus balticus	G-rank 5	S-rank 5
Phragmites australis	3	2
Poa pratensis	5	5
Scirpus acutus	5	5
Scirpus maritimus	4	4
Scirpus pungens	4	3
Spartina pectinata	3	3
Stipa comata-Bouteloua gracilis Stipa comata-Calamovilfa longifolia Stipa curtiseta-Stipa viridula	5 2? ?	5 2? ?
Typha latifolia	5	5